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CONTENTS

Soviet Union

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

Weekly 'International Observers Roundtable' CC 1
[Katin, Lomeyko, Charikov]
Review of Detente CC 1
Brezhnev Gulf Proposal CC 2
Missile Deployment CC 3
NATO Session CC 4
Madrid Meeting CC 6
U.S.-Chinese Partnership CC 6
First Stage of Madrid CSCE Discussions Reviewed CC 7
[Muravyov]
Borisov Commentary CC 8
Korionov Views Reactions to Brezhnev Gulf Proposal CC 9
[PRAVDA 17 Dec]

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Muskie: Iran's Demands Unreasonable, Excessive A 1
Air Force Chief of Staff Discusses Role in Gulf A 1
Borisov: Washington Officials 'Mad' at Bonn A 2
Zorin Assesses Carter's Foreign Policy Record A 2
IZVESTIYA Reports Reagan Cabinet Appointments A 4
[Barsukov, 13 Dec]
'Pragmatic' Foreign Policy Expected From Reagan[(Gasman)] A 5
Aliyev Greets Visiting CPSUA Delegation A 5
[BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY 25 Nov]

SOUTH ASIA

'Misinformation' Dispelled by Afghan Normalization [Kornilov] D 1

EASTERN EUROPE

Polish Foreign Minister To Visit in Late December F 1
Polish Sejm Session Opens, Discusses Economic Plan F 1
Kisiel Speech [Olenichev] F 1

WESTERN EUROPE

Norwegian Foreign Minister Begins Visit G 1
Arrival in Leningrad G 1
Moscow Welcome by Gromyko G 1
Further Reportage on Ponomarev Visit to France G 1
Television Interview G 1
Return Home G 2
Zamyatin Meets 'Peace Supporters' in Helsinki G 2

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

U.S.-Iranian Negotiations on Hostages Reported H 1
Tashkent Exposes U.S. Involvement in Gulf Area H 1
Rachkov Discusses OPEC, Economic Results of War H 3
Comment on Yamani's Views on Gulf Oil, USSR H 3
[Tyssovskiy]
As-Sadat Donation to Afghan Rebels Reported H 4
As-Sadat Inaugurates 'Muslim Antileague' H 5
[Savin in KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA 4 Dec]
PLO Aide Hails Soviet Achievements, Friendship H 6
[TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA 3 Dec]
Conclusion of Libyan-Syrian Negotiations Noted H 6
Brezhnev Greets Mauritanian Leader on Anniversary H 6

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

South African Aggression Against Angola Reported J 1
Machel Comments at Close of Frelimo Meeting J 1

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Reportage on Second Cuban CP Congress in Havana K 1
19 Dec Session K 1
20 Dec Session [Kolesnikov, Chigir] K 1
Resolution on Foreign Policy K 2
Economic Guidelines Approved K 3
Congress Ends K 4
Chernenko Attends Reception, Meets With Castro K 4
Reception Given K 4
Meets With Castro K 5
RPP Claims CIA 'Far-Flung Operation in Latin America K 5
Gilashvili Comments on Visit to Colombia K 6
[IZVESTIYA 6 Dec]
Brazilian Congress Deputies Meet With Shitikov K 7
[IZVESTIYA 10 Dec]

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Reportage on Death of Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin R 1
TASS Report R 1
Kosygin Obituary [PRAVDA 21 Dec] R 1
Times To Visit Hall R 2
Brezhnev, Others in Honor Guard R 2
Council of Ministers Deputy Chairmen Appointed R 3
Supreme Soviet Presidium Appoints New Ministers R 3
Rashidov Attends Tashkent Party Election Meeting R 4
Shevardnadze Addresses Georgian Komsomol Plenum R 4
[ZARYA VOSTOKA 12 Dec]
Shevardnadze Attends Monument Society Congress R 5
Grishin Speaks at Energy Institute Ceremony R 5
Passport Renewals Delayed Despite Warnings R 5
[Tolstov in TRUD 10 Dec]
Evenkiyskiy Okrug Congratulated on Anniversary R 6
[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 12 Dec]

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Rashidov Addresses Meeting on Living Standards S 1
[PRAVDA VOSTOKA 4 Dec]
Lithuanian Minister Views Housing Problems S 1
[Kazanavichys in SOVETSKAYA LITVA 10 Dec]
SOVETSKAYA LITVA: Economic Results of CP Plenum S 2
[30 Nov]
Brezhnev Greets Georgia on Plan Fulfillment S 3
[PRAVDA 30 Nov]
RSFSR Road Freight Planning Problems Discussed S 4
[Trubitsyn in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 4 Dec]
Geologists Say Siberian Oil Find is Shale Oil S 4
[AFP]
Briefs: Primorskiy Kray GRES S 4

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Radio Reports Developments for 17-21 Dec T 1
17 December T 1
18 December T 1
19 December T 1
20 December T 1
21 December T 1

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Supreme Soviet Presidium Honors Cosmonauts U 1
Scientific Conference Studies Fuel Saving Steps U 1
[Chaplygin in SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 3 Dec]

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD211650 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0945 GMT 21 Dec 80

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Vladimir Konstantinovich Katin, APN political observer; Valdimir Borisovich Lomeyko, LITERATURNAYA GAZETA political observer; and Igor Pavlovich Charikov, all-union radio commentator]

[Text] [Charikov] Good day, esteemed comrades! Every day we draw nearer to the line between the old and the new year, to the beginning of the new and the end of the eighth decade. Therefore, it would be fully logical and justified to review certain results, political results and to give an evaluation to those main events of international life with which the old year has been filled and to which you and I have borne witness.

Review of Detente

We have witnessed the acute and tense struggle to preserve detente. The forces of international reaction and militarism undertook a fierce and bitter offensive against detente and against its foundations. This offensive consisted of a whole series of well thought-out and planned actions, directed at discrediting the very idea of detente, at a return to the times of the cold war, at increasing nuclear missile weaponry.

We remember well how at the beginning of this year the U.S. administration, which set the tone in this offensive, attempted to organize a boycott of the Soviet Union in the political, economic, cultural and other areas. At the same time in Washington the so-called doctrine of limited nuclear war was proclaimed and countries and continents situated thousands of miles away from the shores of the United States were numbered among the regions of vital importance for U.S. interests. The situation in the region of the Persian Gulf became sharply aggravated after the U.S. military, with the aim allegedly of protecting these notorious vitally important interests, began to saturate it with warships, to surround it with a chain of naval and air force bases, springboards for the Rapid Deployment Force. In other words, Western strategists intend to destroy the main thing, the military and political balance of power, which constitutes the basis for detente, the starting point for the movement toward nuclear missile disarmament. These strategists decided to alter the actual existing arrangement of forces in their own favor in order to guarantee supremacy for themselves over other powers and to dictate their will to the peoples.

[Katin] Yes, you are right. Throughout the whole of 1980, the United States incessantly and everywhere whipped up tension, and especially in the region of the Near and Middle East, in the Persian Gulf zone. But let us recall the unsuccessful piratical raid by U.S. helicopters on the territory of Iran. Let us recall the joint exercise by the U.S. and Egyptian air forces, the handing over by Egypt of the Ras Banas military base for use by the United States. Today a whole armada of U.S. warships in a state of fighting readiness has been brought into the Persian Gulf region. What then is the point? The whole point is that the revolutions in Afghanistan and Iran were, you see, not to the taste of the United States.

But when events in the world do not come up to U.S. standards then Washington immediately declares that there has been encroachment on the vital interests of the United States and begins to move warships and to threaten intervention. In this the duplicity of U.S. policy becomes apparent. In the guise of defending human rights, it in reality tramples on the rights of whole peoples. Just look at what deadlock has been reached by the Camp David agreements on the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in particular in relation to the Palestinian people. In my view, this year has shown clearly that the Camp David agreements are, so to speak, a still-born solution, which will never become reality, because they were cooked up behind the backs of the Palestinians and without their participation.

[Charikov] Vladimir Konstantinovich, I remember that this year Western countries pretended that they wanted to find a solution to the Near East problem themselves. They even attempted to advance their own initiative on this score at the Venice conference of Common Market participants. However, as they say, things haven't moved an inch. The matter went no further than verbal wishes. The Americans raised their voices at their junior partners and the latter immediately renounced any initiatives. But President Carter who is departing ignominiously from his post recently stated that he is in general against the setting-up a Palestinian state, as if U.S. presidents create states or abolish them in our world.

[Lomeyko] It is appropriate to recall that the Soviet Union several times warned the White House that the policy of diktat in relation to other countries, unwillingness to take into consideration their national interests will evoke among them legitimate resentment and opposition to U.S. pressure. As ought indeed to have been expected, the secret deal at Camp David only heated up the situation in the Near East. The attempts not to recognize the Iranian revolution led only to the hardening of the confrontation between Washington and Tehran.

[Katin] Some day history will fully evaluate the provocative role of Zbigniew Brezezinski, who has become Carter's evil genius or, as he is also called, the Mephistopheles of the 20th century. His clearly expressed, and I would say inherent, anticommunism has left its imprint on many foreign policy doctrines of the old administration and primarily on its strategy. To be sure, it was by his doing that the clamor was raised about the notorious "arc of crisis" embracing southwest Asia and the Near East, which was declared a zone, as we were saying, of the vital interests of the United States.

[Lomeyko] Yes, Yes, that's it. They themselves create the tension, encouraging As-Sadat and Begin to embrace each other, supporting with their bayonets the shah's regime, which was loathsome to the Iranian people, egging on China in its anti-Vietnamese hysteria. However, as Comrade Ponomarev noted at his meeting with the delegation of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the French National Assembly, it has not been proven, by anyone anywhere and of course, will not be possible for them to prove whom the Soviet Union is threatening and with what. The Soviet Union has not and does not covet the sources of raw materials of other countries and also does not desire to extend its own borders. On the contrary, our country unfailingly advances constructive initiatives directed at the peaceful settlement of disputed problems, at decreasing international tension.

Brezhnev Gulf Proposal

[Charikov] The last example took place very recently. In response to the U.S. strategy of reinforcing military confrontation in the region of the Near and Middle East, in response to the concentration of military forces in the Persian Gulf zone, the Soviet Union advanced new proposals directed at the normalization of the situation in this region and at turning the Indian Ocean into a peace zone. These proposals, made by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev during his visit to India, were greeted by the broadest response throughout the world. So in the words of the Jordanian paper AD-DUSTUR, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev is the first leader of a great power to have recognized the importance of the neutrality of the Persian Gulf region.

[Lomeyko] Brezhnev's historic five points, as the world press emphasizes, give the world a graphic notion of who is in action and in what way in the world's hot spots. While the United States has set up military bases in Kenya, Oman and Somalia and on the Island of Diego Garcia, the Soviet Union has proposed that foreign bases not be created in the Persian Gulf region and the adjacent islands and that nuclear weaponry not be deployed there. While the United States is carrying out acts of aggression against Iran and has set up a Rapid Deployment Force for intervention in this region, the Soviet Union has proposed the nonuse of force and the rejection of the threat of the use of force against countries in the Persian Gulf region and nonintervention in their internal affairs.

While, finally, the United States is dragging Egypt, Oman, Pakistan and other countries into military ventures, the Soviet Union has proposed that the status of nonalignment of the states of this region be respected and that they not be drawn into military groups with the participation of nuclear powers. While the United States has declared the oil producing regions of the Near East as zones of its vital interests, the Soviet Union has called for respect for the sovereign right of states of this region to their own natural resources. While Washington has declared a trade boycott on Iran and is threatening to blockade the oil routes, the Soviet Union has called for the elimination of any obstacles or threats to normal trade and the use of any communication routes.

[Charikov] A striking contrast, as we see. And it's no wonder that the Soviet proposals have aroused two opposite reactions in the world. While in India and most of the Arab countries--and other parts of the world, too--this initiative is seen as a path toward a lowering of confrontation, it has been received in Washington with, frankly, a sour face. No wonder: They have to react, yet, really, they have nothing to say.

[Lomeyko] And here I'd like to remark that, as has repeatedly happened this year, the brand new partners from Beijing have hastened to Washington's rescue. Thus, China's deputy foreign minister, Han Nianlong, at once rejected the Soviet proposals and slanderously called them hypocritical. It is natural that the Maoists should react like this. For Beijing, any confrontation is desirable, for it becomes easier to catch a fish in the troubled waters of international conflict for the table of the latter-day Chinese emperors.

One notices that the American-Chinese scepticism in relation to the Soviet proposals is also shared by those West European NATO circles that, for various reasons, are not averse to flexing their military biceps beyond the borders of the Atlantic bloc.

Missile Deployment

[Katin] This year, the American administration has spent much of its resources, energy and wealth on undermining detente and cooperation in Europe as well, or at least somehow or other impairing that process. The United States has been literally nagging its Western allies and Japan with endless demands for more active involement in the arms race. A year has passed--yes, it's a year this December--since at the December session--last year--of NATO, the decision was made to deploy American medium-range missiles in Western Europe. During this, in the FRG, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, the heat of the struggle against the new nuclear weapons on the Continent of Europe has by no means died down. On the contrary, it has gained in scope and power. Yet at NATO headquarters, too, the whole year has been taken up with all-out work to implement the decisions of the December session in Brussels. In Britain and Italy, yes, whole regions have already been selected in those countries where missiles are to be installed, and preparations are already underway for preparing the sites. The past 12 months, have also, in my view, brought considerable clarity to a question that is crucial in this whole missile undertaking, that is, with what object are the missiles being transferred to Western Europe from the United States? A year ago, we recall how the Americans, in persuading their allies to take this step, were saying over and over again that all this was being done to protect them from the Soviet threat. The United States was striving to convince its allies that this would facilitate ratification of SALT II and thereby open the way to a SALT III treaty and the lowering of the level of military confrontation on the Continent of Europe. And this certainly did have a certain psychological effect on the leaders of the states of Western Europe when they were making that decision.

[Charikov] But, as we know, the promised ratification of SALT II didn't happen. Instead, Presidential Directive 59 was issued, which is an important element for understanding the aims of bringing qualitatively new American strategic missiles into Western Europe. According to that directive, nuclear war is henceforth removed from the sphere of the unthinkable and into the sphere of getting people used to its being permissible and even expedient.

The idea is to limit a nuclear conflict to Europe, where American medium-range missiles would act as a sort of lightning rod for the United States. One's attention is further drawn to the peculiar methodology of the United States in brainwashing the countries of Western Europe and implicating them in its military-political interests: At first they were intimidated by the Russians and promised SALT III; then, once the missile decision was made, the SALT II treaty was crumpled up and they forgot about the Soviet threat and said bluntly that they were preparing for a limited nuclear war.

[Katin] Well, in all of these maneuvers, I see a calculation on the part of the Americans, a straightforward calculation, really; to let the West Europeans suffer the retaliatory strike, while they themselves sit pretty, as it were, on the other side of the ocean. Moreover, this calculation is also, it seems to me, a primitive one. The chain reaction of a worldwide nuclear conflagration could, after all, mean the end of the human race--a world catastrophe. The whole point is that there are now already in Western Europe 800 American installations of various types for the delivery of nuclear weapons, capable of reaching targets in the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. These installations are targets for retaliatory strikes, with all that implies. And if to this are added hundreds of new strategic missiles, and therefore, new targets, for retaliatory strikes, then the West Europeans are hardly likely to sleep any more soundly in their beds, and the security of Western Europe is hardly likely to be strengthened.

NATO Session

[Charikov] In this connection, comrades, I should like to say something about the latest session of NATO, or rather, about the results of the session, which was held last week in Brussels. It was not, alas, a gift of peace to Europe. It was a catalyst, as it were, of the tendencies of exacerbating tension in Europe. Even though there were reservations and no special enthusiasm, the Western European NATO partners were still forced to agree to U.S. demands that they should increase their military budgets. They were forced to put their signatures to a communique which, in effect, is an act of interference in other people people's affairs. I refer to the paragraphs of the final communique of the Brussels NATO meeting which concern Poland. This is open blackmail of the Polish People's Republic and is impermissible from any point of view and absolutely unreal.

[Katin] Yes. Incidentally, in the United States itself, and in the countries of Western Europe, there are enormous difficulties and a mass of extremely difficult problems to which the events in Poland can in no way be compared: chronic unemployment, daily strikes, mass protest demonstrations by the working people against rising prices, inflation, deteriorations of living conditions and so on and so forth. Yet the member countries of the Warsaw Treaty, at their meetings, have never made, and never make, any inflammatory statements addressed to the West.

[Charikov] Evidently, the United States and their NATO allies underestimate the incontrovertible fact that the Polish People's Republic is a full member of the organization of the Warsaw Treaty; that it is such a member and will remain so. So let them in Washington and Brussels seriously ponder this very simple, but highly significant, truth.

Let us now try to formulate the essence of all this adventuristic U.S. policy over the past year. What are they trying to achieve? What are they leading the world toward?

[Katin] Well, I imagine that the main goal of present American doctrine is, by means of a sharp, very sharp, buildup of military spending, an escalation of the arms race and the creation of new and still more dangerous and uncontrollable weapon systems, especially in the strategic sphere, to destroy, to their own advantage, the established military equilibrium in the world.

In other words, they want to achieve military superiority over us, over the Soviet Union, and so enable themselves to pursue with impunity a policy of acting from a position of strength, both on a regional and, evidently, also on a worldwide scale. In short, the United States has now returned to a new version of its old plans for unleashing a thermonuclear war. The citing, as justification, of the need to defend areas of vital importance such as the Persian Gulf or Afghanistan is just cardboard window-dressing.

[Lomeyko] One cannot ignore the fact that a contradiction has arisen between Washington's course and the political course of many of the countries of Western Europe. By setting itself the aim of achieving military superiority, inter alia by drawing its West European allies into a new round of the arms race, Washington has let out of the bottle the evil spirit of the jinn of antidetente.

The events of this year have shown that the bonds of Atlantic solidarity have held the NATO marriage together not on the basis of mutual love, but rather on the basis of mutual hostility toward socialism. During the cold war it was easier for Washington to reprimand its allies and demand that they submissively pay their dues to the NATO military preparations fund. A decade of detente has shown that the West Europeans are gaining from political, economic and cultural cooperation with the socialist countries.

[Katin] That is why Washington's course of breaking off the East-West dialogue and curtailing economic links between the West European countries and their partners in the East has found no support among the leading politicians of Western Europe. The meeting between President Giscard d'Estaing of France and Leonid Ilich Breshnev this May in Warsaw, and the talks between Chancellor Schmidt of the FRG, Vice Chancellor Genscher and the Soviet leaders this June-July in Moscow showed that the leaders of both France and the FRG are in favor of continuing the policy of detente, of settling complicated problems by means of talks and of controlling the arms race.

[Lomeyko] Incidentally, the fact of growing disagreement between the United States and its European allies is recognized even in a NATO report which was prepared by the Research Service of the Library of Congress for the Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East of the U.S. House of Representatives. This report says: "The unrestrained reaction of the United States to events in Afghanistan and the Iranian crisis has caused a sharp exacerbation of relations within the NATO military bloc, between the United States on one hand and the West European countries on the other." The West European NATO members, perhaps with the exception of Britain, have no desire to be passively led by the United States, which, using as a pretext the events in Afghanistan and Iran--and note, the Americans themselves say this--using this pretext the United States is stubbornly insisting that military expenditure be increased even above the 3 percent per annum level that has been agreed on in NATO. The disagreement that has arisen over Afghanistan and the Iranian crisis, the report notes, may exacerbate the long-standing contradictions that lie concealed beneath the surface of seeming unity among the allies.

[Charikov] Vladimir Borisovich, I think this is the idea that should be emphasized: The forthcoming years will probably show how serious these disagreements are within the Atlantic community. Of course, in the next few years we will see how these trends continue to develop: On the one hand there is the eagerness for Atlantic solidarity, and on the other there is ultimately the desire among each of them to uphold their own national interests which, as we can see, do not always coincide with U.S. interests. In such a complex situation the first step that should be taken by all European states is to convene a conference on military detente and disarmament. Such a conference, for a start, could switch on an albeit amber warning light against Europe sliding dangerously toward irreparable catastrophe.

If the meeting now going on in Madrid managed to pass a decision to convene such a conference, this alone would determine the success of the meeting and would justify the hopes placed on it--hopes for a sensible turn of events toward a reduction in the military confrontation on the continent. Hopes are placed, too, on the Soviet-U.S. talks on limiting nuclear weapons in Europe which have started in Geneva. Vladimir Borisovich, we know that you recently returned from Madrid where you were an eyewitness to the work of the meeting of the countries which participated in the 1975 European conference. What are your impressions of it?

Madrid Meeting

[Lomeyko] One can already sum up the first results of the first stage, or first round, of the Madrid meeting, which ended on 20 December. A break has now been announced until 27 January, when the meeting will continue its work in order to pass a final document on 5 March. Naturally, we are not likely to get hold of a computer that could calculate accurately the results of what has been achieved. Nonetheless to sum up my impressions, I tend to view the overall outcome of the first round as favorable to those forces which champion the constructive development of the spirit and letter of the Final Act. I had occasion to see those antidentente forces at work in Madrid, and I must say that it was clear to all that their instigator was the U.S. delegation which set itself the aim, if not of wrecking, then hampering the Madrid meeting in every possible way. But despite all the efforts, despite all the U.S. pressure on its allies in the Palace of Congresses, the attempts to drag the meeting into the mire of confrontation were not successful. What was the reason for this? I think the main reason was that despite everything, for the majority of the West European countries, not to mention the socialist countries, detente is a real and living thing which brings gains to the peoples of those countries. This is in contrast to Washington, for which detente and Helsinki have always been, so to speak, an unloved child. The main result of the first stage is that despite all these attempts to wreck the start of the meeting and its normal work, the clear majority of those taking part spoke out in favor of continuing the East-West political dialogue, in favor of expanding economic and cultural cooperation and in favor of convening and holding a conference on disarmament in Europe. Seventy-seven different proposals have already been put forward in Madrid. Of course, not all of them are in accordance with the spirit of Helsinki, but as Leonid Fedorovich Ilyichev, the head of the Soviet delegation, noted in his speech, many of the proposals were permeated with the spirit of Helsinki and may promote the further development of that spirit. As an example, I could quote the Soviet-Polish proposal to affirm by legislation the 10 Helsinki principles of interstate relations, or the proposal by Bulgaria and the GDR that the principles expounded in the Final Act be reflected in treaties, agreements and other international documents.

U.S.-Chinese Partnership

In reviewing the events of the past year, one cannot but pay attention to the dangerous partnership between the aggressive NATO circles headed by Washington, and the Beijing hegemonists. There has not been a single event in international politics which did not show this alliance in action. The Carter administration only had to stir up hysteria over the events in Afghanistan and Beijing immediately started to inflate it even further. The White House had only to declare a policy of boycott and embargo against the USSR and other socialist countries, and once again Beijing came out as the most zealous supporter of the United States in propagating those measures. Any decision by NATO to increase its military preparations finds a joyful echo behind the Great Wall of China, and this is not to mention the direct interference by the Chinese hegemonists in the affairs of Afghanistan, Vietnam, Kampuchea, Laos and other countries.

[Charikov] Despite all the complexity of the present situation in the world, our country is not drawing for itself a pessimistic picture for next year, 1981, since there are real chances of curbing the arms race, and there are specific proposals for this which we have mentioned. But for this, everyone has to sit down together at the conference table and discuss the proposals made by the Soviet Union. This course of cooperation and detente was confirmed once again as recently as 5 December in Moscow at the meeting of leaders of the Warsaw Pact member countries, when it was clearly stated that the socialist states are in favor of renouncing the use of force or the threat of force in relations between countries and peoples. Such is the fundamental line of peace which counters trends toward artificially whipping up tension in international affairs. So if we speak of what is the chief political result of the year, I think it can be said with certainty that the result is that detente has withstood an onslaught. It has turned out to have very many supporters who are interested in strengthening and developing it. We cannot say at the moment that the world situation calls for complacency. The struggle is not over; it will be continued. There is every ground, however, to hold the opinion that by the efforts of all those who understand that detente is the only correct and sensible path for mankind, this process will continue further on its way in the next year and the next decade.

Our program has come to an end, dear comrades. Thank you for listening.

FIRST STAGE OF MADRID CSCE DISCUSSIONS REVIEWED

LD202036 Moscow TASS in English 1806 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] Madrid, 20 Dec, TASS--TASS correspondent Sergey Muravyov reports:

The first stage of the Madrid meeting of representatives of countries, participants in the Conference on European Security and Cooperation, ended here. The delegations are leaving Madrid for the Christmas vacations, and will gather again in the Madrid Palace of Congresses on January 27, 1981.

Two different approaches to the discussion of the problems have been manifested clearly during the first stage of the meeting. The Soviet Union and other socialist countries, attaching much significance to the Madrid forum, took from the very start the course of a business-like exchange of opinions, while NATO countries, above all, the United States, sought to take the meeting away from the constructive dialogue and to the road of confrontation. They sought to shift the spotlight of attention from important matters of the struggle for the security of peoples, for the consolidation of detente and cooperation, to the topics that are outside the framework of the Helsinki Final Act and also to try to impart a feature of psychological war to the work of the forum.

Thanks to the efforts of European countries, above all, socialist countries, the first stage of the Madrid meeting, especially its conclusion, had a business-like character which is shown by a great number of proposals tabled. Many of them, above all, the proposals of socialist countries, are in keeping with the Helsinki Accords and are really aimed at the strengthening of peace and security in the European Continent. A lot of proposals were also made by Western countries. These proposals are to be discussed. But it can be said already now that the aim of these proposals is not the improvement of relations among states but interference in their internal affairs, which contradicts the provisions of the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference.

The second stage of the Madrid meeting will be devoted to the discussion of the proposals made as to the Soviet Union, it will be firmly adhering to one approach, will be striving to ensure that the Madrid forum ends in concrete and positive results, so that the process of detente be given a new impetus which would be largely promoted by the decision to convene a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe. The European peoples are expecting from the Madrid meeting precisely such results.

Borisov Commentary

LD191554 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Yuriy Borisov commentary]

[Text] The purpose of the [CSCE] meeting, as defined in the Helsinki Final Act adopted in 1975, is to exchange opinions on the implementation of different provisions of that historic document. The participants, which represent 35 countries, are also expected to decide on new concrete ways of improving international relations, strengthening security, promoting international cooperation in Europe and the cause of international relaxation.

In the 6 weeks since the start of the conference the participants have made some good progress. One has to admit, however, that there have been some unfortunate snags. The U.S. delegate and the delegates of certain other NATO countries tried, especially at the beginning, to sidetrack the debates and turn them away from burning European problems including, above all, the problem of strengthening European security and of promoting disarmament. These attempts should be seen in a general context of the policies of the Carter administration which made a sharp turn towards aggravating the international situation and stepping up the arms race. And how, indeed, one can regard as peacemakers those who want to site on European soil new nuclear medium-range missiles. These people also keep asking for bigger and bigger military budgets and openly admit the possibility of what they call limited nuclear war in Europe.

But on the whole--and this should be noted as a point in its favor--the Madrid conference followed a constructive path. As for the Soviet Union, it took a constructive stand at the conference right from the beginning. The Soviet delegation stressed that the Soviet side has resolved to adhere to its policy of implementing, and promoting the implementation of, the Helsinki Accords. In other words, it is determined to promote the cause of peace and to defend the most important of all human rights, the right to live and the right to a peaceful future of mankind. Acting jointly with other socialist countries, the Soviet Union put forward a range of important peace initiatives. These include a call to all participants in the Helsinki summit to sign a treaty pledging not to be the first to use both nuclear and conventional weapons against each other. It was also proposed not to expand the existing military and political alliances in Europe, to put a freeze on the numbers of troops in the region covered by the Helsinki Final Act and to strengthen security guarantees for the nonnuclear European countries.

A vivid demonstration of the Soviet good will and of the desire to promote international relaxation was the unilateral withdrawal of 20,000 Soviet troops, 1,000 tanks and other military equipment from the GDR. In the present climate of mounting international tension it becomes more important than ever to take effective steps in order to prevent a new spiral of the arms race and decide on ways of limiting arms. With this in mind the Soviet Union and other socialist countries supported a Polish proposal to call a European conference on relaxation in the military field and on disarmament. Such a conference could give new momentum to international relaxation on the continent, which now contains especially large quantities of weapons.

At the same time, the socialist states are ready to consider other countries' proposals related to international relaxaion and disarmament. The most important thing now is to set into motion the process of military relaxation in Europe. The Soviet delegate in Madrid has stressed the primary importance of achieving a general improvement of the international situation, improving international relations, strengthening security and developing international relaxation. President Leonid Brezhnev stressed that the Soviet side will firmly adhere to its policy of promoting agreements which would serve the interests of international relaxation, security and the peaceful future of all nations.

KORIONOV VIEWS REACTIONS TO BREZHNEV GULF PROPOSAL

LD191717 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Dec 80 p 5

[Article by PRAVDA political observer Vitaliy Korionov: "The Soviet Initiative and Its Opponents": Capitalized passage published in boldface]

[Text] The international public's attention is fixed on the proposals on ways to ensure peace and security in the Persian Gulf region put forward by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev in his speech to the Indian Parliamentarians. "The peoples living in the Persian Gulf region," the Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN writes, "are firmly convinced that the new Soviet initiative serves the cause of strengthening their independence." "Judging by the Soviet Union's words and actions," Japan's MAINICHI writes, "it continues to be seriously committed to preserving relaxation of tension."

The significance of the Soviet proposals is particularly great in view of the fact that they have been put forward in the alarming situation that has taken shape in Asia and above all in the Near East. Wide areas have become an arena for vigorous subversive activity by forces seeking to fuel the international atmosphere and multiply the seats of military conflicts. Following their usual tactics, influential U.S. imperialist circles are endeavoring to give the impression that the USSR intends to encroach on Near East oil or pose a threat to oil transportation routes.

Of course, there is not a grain of truth in these fabrications and there never has been. The truth is that the U.S. oil monopolies intend to keep hold of the resources belonging to the peoples of the region's countries at all costs. Pursuing far-reaching hegemonist aims, the American military has for the first time secured a powerful bridgehead there from which it intends to keep the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean region--including the eastern seaboard of Africa and the approaches to southwest Asia--in its sights.

The current American administration, which is in its last days, is trying to force this policy on its successor. Speaking in Montreal recently, Z. Brzezinski maintained that with the so-called "Carter doctrine" the United States has assumed a commitment which "will exercise a long-term influence on the eighties." Listing the military measures Washington has implemented in the Persian Gulf, Indian Ocean and also in Egypt and a number of other countries in the region, Brzezinski meaningfully added: "I want to stress that all this is just the beginning."

Along with military penetration in the Near and Middle East, imperialism is trying to create antagonism between states in the area and undermine the anti-imperialist direction of their policy. This is graphically illustrated by the attempt to exploit the tragic conflict between Iraq and Iran--tragic because it is senseless. "The great American game" is how France's LE FIGARO described Washington's line, noting that it "amounts to exceptionally skillful incitement."

The Soviet Union's counter to the imperialists' dangerous actions is a peace-loving course specifically geared to preventing the Near East powder keg from exploding. The international public sees Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's proposals, expounded in his Indian Parliament speech, as an all-embracing, constructive program prompted by sincere concern for the fate of Near East and Asian countries and peoples.

This program is addressed to the United States, the other Western powers, China, Japan and all states that display an interest. It brims over with understanding of the vital interests of the Persian Gulf states and respect for the nonaligned status they have chosen. Its implementation would reveal new, favorable prospects to the peoples choosing the path of social progress.

THE SOVIET UNION SUGGESTS: CREATING NO FOREIGN MILITARY BASES IN THE PERSIAN GULF REGION AND ADJACENT ISLANDS; DEPLOYING NO NUCLEAR WEAPONS OR ANY OTHER WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION THERE; NOT USING OR THREATENING TO USE FORCE AGAINST THE PERSIAN GULF REGION COUNTRIES; NOT INTERFERING IN THEIR INTERNAL AFFAIRS; RESPECTING THE NONALIGNED STATUS CHOSEN BY THE STATES OF THE PERSIAN GULF REGION; NOT ENLISTING THEM IN MILITARY GROUPINGS TO WHICH NUCLEAR POWERS BELONG; RESPECTING THE SOVEREIGN RIGHT OF THE STATES OF THIS REGION TO THEIR OWN NATURAL RESOURCES; NOT CREATING ANY OBSTACLES OR THREATS TO NORMAL TRADE EXCHANGE OR THE USE OF SEA ROUTES LINKING THE STATES OF THIS REGION WITH OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD.

"We believe," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said in his speech, "that an accord of this sort to which, naturally, the states of the region themselves would be full signatories, would accord with their fundamental interests. After all, it would be a reliable guarantee of their sovereign rights and security."

The new Soviet proposals have generated a great international response, for they are a real path toward ensuring lasting peace in one of the world's most explosive regions. There is an obvious and tremendous contrast between the USSR's position and the saber-rattling to be heard at present from the Pentagon and NATO headquarters in Brussels.

The Persian Gulf's transformation into a zone of peace and security suggested by the Soviet Union obviously does not suit those circles which are gambling on military adventures. The reactionary bourgeois press, particularly in the United States, is seeking to distort and slander the Soviet proposals and belittle their significance.

The Beijing hegemonists are also beside themselves. Speaking at a press conference in the capital on 14 December, one official Beijing representative resorted to malicious attacks on the new peace-loving Soviet initiative. Well, Beijing thus again confirmed that it is in favor of the further aggravation of international tension.

Of course, attacks and fabrications cannot weaken the great significance of the USSR's proposals. The peace-loving public can see that the CPSU and the Soviet state are doing everything to achieve everywhere--not just verbally but in deeds--the easing of tension and the consolidation of detente.

MUSKIE: IRAN'S DEMANDS UNREASONABLE, EXCESSIVE

LD220946 Moscow TASS in English 0750 GMT 22 Dec 80

[Text] Washington, 22 Dec, TASS--The United States has virtually rejected Iran's conditions for the release of the U.S. hostages. Speaking in the "Meet the Press" programme of the NBC, Secretary of State Edmund Muskie described Iran's demands as unreasonable and excessive. At the same time he emphasized that the problem of the hostages will hardly be solved before the expiry of the present administration's term of office.

AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF DISCUSSES ROLE IN GULF

LD201440 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1505 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] New York, 18 Dec (TASS)--The American brasshats intend to step up their presence in the region of the Persian Gulf, whipping up the already complex situation in the area. At the same time the Pentagon strategists are directly examining the question of military actions in the region with the participation of U.S. Armed Forces. This is evident from an interview which the chief of staff of the U.S. Air Force, General L. Allen, granted to D. Middleton, correspondent of the New York TIMES.

The author indicates that American military leaders are now giving considerable time to the "discussion of the questions of the strategy, tactics, supply of arms and equipment required to wage a war in the Persian Gulf." In this plan, according to L. Allen, the present U.S. military potential in the region is allegedly inadquate: There is a lack of "reliable bases," arms stores and other military equipment to conduct "effective" military operations.

The facts testify otherwise, however, as the American press itself indicates. Deployed in the direct vicinity of the entrance to the Persian Gulf is a mighty American naval armada consisting of 2 carrier strike groups, 170 warplanes based on aircraft carriers, while on American vessels, in full combat readiness, there are 1,800 marines. Taking into account the fact that after the beginning of the Iranian-Iraqi conflict ships of a number of NATO countries were sent to the region, on Washington's orders, the overall number of warships of the West in this region exceeds 600.

The New York TIMES also writes that "in this region, as a demonstration of the might of the U.S. aviation, there have been deployed air force fighters and B-52 intercontinental bombers, while AWACS reconnaissance aircraft are patrolling the airspace over Saudi Arabia and the Persian Gulf region." Besides this the paper points out, the United States has permission to use air force and naval bases in Oman, Kenya and Somalia, and shortly it will be able to reckon on two former Israeli Air Force bases on the Sinai Peninsula which will be handed over to Egypt.

As far as stores of arms and ammunition are concerned, in the Indian Ocean, off the island of Diego Garcia, seven big transport ships with their arsenals aboard are riding at anchor, ready at the first signal to set off for the "task area."

All this seems little to General Allen who, as he says, hopes that the budget for 1981-82 will envisage an increase in the allocations for the preparation of operations in the region of the Near and Middle East. In particular, the air force is working for the creation and deployment of a new long-range military transport plane, and also the reequipment of civil planes for sending troops to a "crisis area."

Washington, as can be seen from the statements of the high-ranking spokesman of the Pentagon, is intending to ignore the clear and constructive initiatives of the Soviet Union, directed at an all-round lowering of international tension in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean, the creation of a normal, tranquil situation in this extraordinarily important region of the world. This can only cause alarm among the world's peace-loving public.

BORISOV: WASHINGTON OFFICIALS, 'MAD' AT BONN

LD191552 Moscow TASS in English 1524 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Moscow, 19 Dec, TASS--TASS news analyst Yuriy Borisov writes:

Officials in the U.S. capital are mad at Bonn. What for? It has transpired that the reason for this rage is that the FRG Government has taken a decision to increase the military budget for next year by a "mere" 2.2 percent in real terms. Officials in Washington have assessed this step as nothing short of a perjury. The fact is that the U.S. administration has categorically demanded that its European allies fully abide by the 1978 NATO programme about an annual increase in the military budget by three percent.

The anti-Bonn campaign has been joined by the National Security Adviser to the U.S. President Zbigniew Brzezinski. According to today's Washington POST, he described the decision of the FRG Government as "disappointing and causing concern." A "profound disappointment" over the position of West Germany in the field of military spending increases was also voiced by U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown in his yesterday's statement in the "international relations council."

So what is at issue now is a concerted new move on the part of the United States to pressure its chief NATO ally in Europe. Although at present this move is spearheaded above all against Bonn, in reality, however, Washington thus is exercising pressure on all its European allies. The fact is that most of these states have already declared that it is impossible to raise their military budgets by an annual three percent in real terms. The three percent increase in the military budget has just been rejected by the parliament of Denmark. The stubbornness of the Europeans causes a clear discontent and annoyance overseas because this makes it difficult for Washington to pursue its policy of whipping up the arms race.

In order to break the obstinacy of the European NATO countries which are by far not delighted by the U.S. plans to turn the European Continent into a missile-nuclear powder keg, the U.S. administration deliberately dramatizes the situation in the world and especially in Europe. Again and again, resort is made to fabrications about a "Soviet military threat." They were used again yesterday by the U.S. Secretary of Defence Brown in his statement in the "international relations council."

Despite all these efforts, Washington, as has been demonstrated by the recent NATO Council session in Brussels, has failed to convince its European allies of the need to further persist in an unchecked arms race. A number of West European countries, including Belgium and the Netherlands, are still opposed to their territories being transformed into launching pads for new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles. They have grounds to be wary that this will lead not to enhancing but on the contrary to undermining the security on the European Continent.

Besides, the course of the present U.S. administration of whipping up military preparations in a bid to achieve military superiority over the Warsaw Treaty countries means for West European states a serious deterioration in their economic and financial positions. However, officials overseas appear to be least of all inclined to take account of both the interests of security as well as the interests of the economic stability of West European states.

ZORIN ASSESSES CARTER'S FOREIGN POLICY RECORD

LD211418 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Valentin Zorin commentary presented in the "Moscow Viewpoint" feature]

[Text] These are the last few weeks in office of the Carter administration which led America for the past 4 years.

There is nothing surprising about the fact that currently attempts are made to sum up some results of the administration's performance both on the domestic scene and in foreign policy, to try to picture what place the administration will occupy in the history of American presidencies. Such attempts ought to be welcomed, at least for the reason that both positive and negative experience is an important base for further actions.

Not surprisingly, the leaders of the outgoing administration are now trying to present themselves in the best light, as they extoll the results of their activity in all possible ways. Special activity is generated in this sense by Dr Zbigniew Brzezinski. Apparently this activity is closely related to the not-so-clear record of this policymaker who is trying to deny charges of serious foreign policy blunders he had made, blunders that have cost the Carter administration so dearly. But I don't want at all to blame the presidential national security adviser entirely for the foreign policy setbacks of the United States in recent years. He is not such a big figure to claim also an important role including in the negative sense. [as heard] Yet one thing is beyond doubt. In the political balance of the outgoing administration, foreign policy problems occupy a major place. It seems difficult to bring to mind another American administration of the recent past that, as it was leaving Washington, would carry away such a long list of foreign policy failures and setbacks as that of the Carter government.

A favorite claim of Jimmy Carter is that he was the first post-war president of the United States under whom America was not engaged in any wars. I would like to make a few remarks in this respect. No other person but Jimmy Carter endorsed that plan for an American military action in Iran, an action that failed to bring about a dangerous military move because of several unfortunate circumstances for the commandos involved in it. As for the President, he gave an order that could result in the deaths of many Americans far away from the United States. But apart from this concrete case, and speaking about the situation in general, I may note that President Carter is claiming merit that does not belong to him. Just compare the international situation his administration inherited from his predecessor with the situation the Carter government is leaving behind for the incoming administration. This is enough to see that Jimmy Carter, even if he leaves a trace in United States history, won't appear in it as a peacemaker at all.

The Democratic administration started its activity 4 years ago in conditions of easier international tensions made possible by hard effort. As it is going out it leaves behind not only a series of major international crises but substantial experience, if it may be so called, in subverting the process of relaxation of international tensions to such a degree that the new administration will have to start solving many important international problems when it has been thrown back many years. [as heard]

Take two concrete problems about which the Carter administration has been talking at length all along. When the Camp David deal was being concluded, the President himself and his entourage, as well as many representatives of the American media, were trying to picture it as a tremendous diplomatic achievement of modern times, as an action that helped President Carter to untie the very complex Mideastern political knot. But instead of having been untied, the Mideastern knot has become even tighter. The present situation in the region is even more explosive than it was before the Camp David deal. If one can speak about the deal at all as something outstanding, one can say in the light of the latest facts that it was one of the biggest political pieces of bluff in the history of diplomacy and one of the greatest failures in the foreign policy of the United States for many years.

When I was staying in your country in late October, I saw how tenaciously Jimmy Carter was trying to save his political career when he suddenly recalled the SALT II treaty after many months of keeping silent about it.

The way the treaty was signed in Geneva and how President Carter destroyed with his own hands what had been achieved is certainly to become part of textbooks on the history of diplomacy--never as an achievement for Carter government, but as an indicator of his political bankruptcy. In a bid to save his reputation post factum, Carter's Washington tried to blame the Soviet Union for the nonratification of Salt II, tying it up with the events in Afghanistan. The unreasonableness of the attempt is so obvious that U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown was forced to admit that in a recent Washington POST interview. In that interview the Pentagon chief made the reminder that the turning point in the sorry fate of SALT II was the artifically manufactured panic, without any facts to substantiate it, about a so-called Soviet Army brigade in Cuba. The fact that some time after the campaign was launched Washington backed out of this by admitting actually there was no military threat to the United States shows the falsehood of this entire scheme. An answer is yet to be found to the question for what purpose the Carter administration launched a campaign early in the fall of 1979 to cancel all the effort it had taken to prepare and sign the SALT II treaty. But it is quite apparent even now that an action which could have really become a political asset for the Carter administration was undermined by the administration itself and turned into political ballast.

I could go on citing from the list of foreign policy failures of the Carter administration. But what I have said is quite enough to draw a conclusion that the administration's performance on the international scene for the past 4 years has been inglorious, to put it mildly. An ancient Eastern proverb goes that a man who stumbles is not silly. The silly man is the one who stumbles many times in one and the same spot. The point of talking about the Carter administration's mistakes in foreign policy lies above all in that the men who replace this administration should not repeat them.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS REAGAN CABINET APPOINTMENTS

LD180929 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Dec 80 Morning Edition p 5

[Correspondent Yu. Barsukov report: "First Appointments"]

[Text] Washington--The new U.S. President R. Reagan, who takes office on 20 January, has announced his first cabinet appointments.

A man who shares the future president's surname has been appointed treasury secretary--Donald Regan, a big financier from New York and the chairman of the board of Merrill Lynch. The post of defense secretary will go to Caspar Weinberger, who once belonged to President Nixon's administration.

The attorney general in the new cabinet will be Willian Smith, owner of a big firm of lawyers in Los Angeles and the new president's personal attorney. Malcolm Baldrige, chairman of Scovill Incorporated, is invited to take the post of secretary of commerce. Drew Lewis, deputy chairman of the Republican Party National Committee, who played an active part in Reagan's election campaign, is appointed secretary of transportation, and Republican Senator Richard Schweiker is to be secretary of health.

The important post of CIA director goes to William Casey, a major New York lawyer. Casey is a veteran of the U.S. intelligence service, which he worked for back in World War II. The CIA director will now be a member of the cabinet.

The American press draws attention to the fact that as yet the new secretary of state has not been appointed--he is usually regarded as first minister in the cabinet and is the person responsible for shaping and implementing U.S. foreign policy.

'PRAGMATIC' FOREIGN POLICY EXPECTED FROM REAGAN ADMINISTRATION

LD220934 Moscow in English to North American 2300 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Analyzing the foreign policy problems which the Reagan administration will have to tackle, political observer (Vladimir Gasman) writes in the weekly MOSCOW NEWS:

The outgoing Democratic administration is leaving a political legacy that the new team in the White House will have to act upon, all the more so since they seem to have reaffirmed their commitment to continuity in American foreign policy. It was under Carter (Vladimir Gasman) continues, that the arms race was given fresh impetus and the SALT II was pronounced dead. The Republican leader's statement on the prospects of the talks and ratification by the Senate are common knowledge, but such a position doesn't solve and cannot solve the problem of limiting strategic nuclear arms, the problem which is facing and will inevitably face the United States and the Soviet Union. The solution of this problem should be accomplished on an equal and mutually acceptable basis.

The observer then notes that the most difficult part of the legacy the Republicans will have to deal with might be Soviet-American relations. Here the Carter administration senselessly wasted the political heritage of the previous Republican administration. Once he initiated the arms race, Carter became a prisoner of anti-Sovietism. He was hypnotized by his own anti-Soviet actions in response to the Afghan events, and was totally unaware that he sacrificed normal, mutually advantageous relations between the two major world powers, assuring their mutual security.

In the Soviet observer's opinion, continuity in foreign policy is not a mere repetition of what was done before, nor does it mean the adoption of false ideas and doctrines and the repetition of the mistakes made by predecessors. And if continuity is to be ensured in reality, why should the Republicans of the early 80's not continue certain foreign policies of the Republican administration of the period from 1968-1976?--particularly so since the Democrat Carter didn't feel himself bound in the least by that continuity. Anyway, sooner or later we will see an independent, well-balanced and--to use the American political jargon--pragmatic policy from the new administration, (Vladimir Gasman) writes, and notes that the logic of world politics of the 80's urgently demands that Soviet-American relations be improved on a constructive basis. This logic also creates a possibility for such a positive development.

We may hope, (Vladimir Gasman) writes in conclusion, that this objective and indisputable logic of Soviet-American relations will prevail at some stage, and the sooner this happens the better. We may also hope that it will reduce the effect of transient phenomena which in recent years often obscured the valuable substance of relations between the two countries.

ALIYEV GREETS VISITING CPUSA DELEGATION

LD191113 Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 25 Nov 80 p 1

[AZERINFORM report: "Reception at Azerbaijan CP Central Committee"]

[Excerpt] G.A. Aliyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee, received 24 November a delegation of leading workers of the Communist Party of the United States [CPUSA] headed by R. Proctor, member of the Central Committee Politburo, and L. Dlugin, member of the Central Committee, which is in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

After greeting the guests warmly G.A. Aliyev said that Soviet communists know what difficult circumstances the American communists have to work under and note with satisfaction the fidelity of the CPUSA and its leadership to the principles of Marxism-Leninism. We rate highly the active offensive stance of U.S. communists who are exposing the reactionary essence of American imperialism and struggling consistently for peace, the relaxation of international tension and for friendship and cooperation between the peoples of the United States and the USSR. Familiarization with the experience of communist building in our country, with the life of the Soviet people and the achievements of real socialism will help you in your practical work.

'MISINFORMATION' DISPELLED BY AFGHAN NORMALIZATION

LD191522 Moscow TASS in English 1240 GMT 19 Dec 80

["Who Obstructs a Settlement"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 19 Dec, TASS--TASS commentator Yuriy Kornilov writes:

There are two reports which came to TASS almost simultaneously.

One is from New York and it says that Senator Henry John Heinz has urged the U.S. Government to continue its arms shipments to bandits who are engaged in counterrevolutionary activities against Afghanistan from the territory of Pakistan. The senator said in an article published by the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR that help to the Afghan rebels was highly in the interests of the United States.

The other report came from Beijing and it is about a statement made by Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Han Nianlung. When asked whether Beijing supplies arms to bandit formations smuggled into Afghanistan from outside, Han Nianlung cynically declared that the Chinese leadership considers its "duty" to give such "assistance."

These reports show once more that the undeclared war which is being waged against sovereign Afghanistan by the forces of imperialism, hegemonism and reaction is going on and that the initiators of this war are intent on stepping up anti-Afghan subversive activities. Thus more than 3,000 armed bandits were smuggled into the DRA from the territories of Pakistan and Iran in October-November.

Once cannot fail to see that in trying, though vainly, to strangle the Afghan revolution, the enemies of freedom and independence of the peoples make attempts to cover up their aggressive actions with a smokescreen of inventions concerning "Moscow's aggressive plans" in Asia, in the Near and Middle East. The spate of false stories on this subject has especially increased after the Soviet Union came up with a constructive and deeply peaceable initiative for ensuring peace and tranquility in the Persian Gulf area.

So Washington and some of its NATO allies are talking about a mythical "Soviet menace" whether to Pakistan, to Persian Gulf countries or to God knows whom, while in fact doing everything possible to increase tension in Asia and in the Near and Middle East. They loudly demand discontinuation of Soviet assistance to Afghanistan while in fact preventing this in every way by sending more and more armed gangs into the DRA and hampering the attainment of agreement between Afghanistan and its neighbours, especially Pakistan.

It is shown once more that hypocrisy and lies are also weapons used by imperialism and reaction as they do machineguns and submachineguns with which they equip bandit formations smuggled into the DRA. But deception won't take them long, especially in view of the fact that life in Afghanistan is gradually coming back to normal, despite machinations by its enemies; and this normalization is a sure guarantee that the mist of misinformation will be dispelled sooner or later and then it will become clear to Afghanistan's southern neighbours that the only realistic way lies with goodneighbour agreement with the Afghan Government on the basis of those constructive and reasonable proposals which were put forward by Kabul in May.

That is the way things are. As to the inventions concerning "the Soviet menace"--which are designed, on the one hand, to justify the aggressive encroachment of imperialists and, on the other, to call in question the importance and value of the new Soviet initiative--one can only say one thing about them: A lie will never become a truth, even if it is repeated many times.

POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT IN LATE DECEMBER

LD192116 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2100 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] At the invitation of the Soviet Government, Czyrek, member of the PZPR Central Committee and foreign minister of Poland will visit the Soviet Union on an official visit at the end of December 1980.

POLISH SEJM SESSION OPENS, DISCUSSES ECONOMIC PLAN

LD191344 Moscow TASS in English 1306 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Warsaw, 19 Dec, TASS--A regular session of the Sejm of the Polish People's Republic opened here today. Taking part in the session are First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party Stanislaw Kania, other Polish leaders.

The deputies will discuss the drafts of the national economic plan and the state budget for 1981.

Kisiel Speech

LD192144 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] The latest session of the Sejm of the Polish People's Republic has opened in Warsaw. Its deputies are discussing the draft national econic plan and budget for 1981. Our correspondent in Warsaw, Viktor Olenichev, reports:

The draft plan and budget submitted for the examination of the deputies have been drawn up with the present situation in mind. They reflect those efforts which are now being undertaken by the PZPR and by the government to overcome difficulties. Addressing the Sejm, Henryk Kisiel, chairman of the planning commission, said: The measures outlined will yield results only if all production reserves are used and if enterprises begin to work at a normal rhythm. Henryk Kisiel said that attempts by individual groups to put forward, in present conditions, demands for increased earnings were irresponsible. Such demands, he said, only exacerbate the country's situation, which is in any case difficult. In 1981 agriculture will receive priority: One-fifth of all investment is being directed to agriculture. The countryside will receive considerably more tractors and other machinery, and the supplies of mineral fertilizer will also increase. In industry main attention will be focused on the development of coal extraction. Coal is literally the bread, he stressed, of Polish industry. Henryk Kisiel expressed confidence that the miners will as always display a sense of responsibility and awareness of their duty toward the country. [Words indistinct] decisive factor in developing the Polish economy in the present conditions. He thanked the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries for the assistance given to Poland recently. The draft plan and budget, after preliminary discussions, will be submitted to Sejm commissions for detailed examination.

NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER BEGINS OFFICIAL VISIT

Arrival in Leningrad

LD201326 Moscow TASS in English 1702 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Leningrad, 19 Dec, TASS--Norwegian Foreign Minister Knut Frydenlund began his official visit to the Soviet Union by a visit to Leningrad. He has arrived here today in the afternoon from Oslo.

At the airport decorated by the state flags of Norway, the Soviet Union and the Russian Federation, the minister was met by Leningrad Vice-Mayor Mikhail Filonov, USSR Ambassador to Norway Uriy Kirichenko as well as by Norway's Ambassador to the Soviet Union Dagfinn Stenseth.

At the Victory Square, Knut Frydenlund saw the Monument to the Defenders of Leningrad built by Leningraders on the eve of the thirtieth anniversary of the victory over fascism. It symbolizes the courage and staunchness of Leningraders who defended their city from the enemy during a 900-day blockade. The foreign minister laid flowers at the foot of the monument and made an inscription in the book for guests of honour.

The City Council gave dinner in honour of the guest.

Moscow Welcome by Gromyko

LD211822 Moscow TASS in English 1332 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Moscow, 21 Dec, TASS--Norway's Foreign Minister Knut Frydenlund arrived in Moscow today for an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government. He was welcomed at the airport by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Foreign Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko, and by other officials.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON PONOMAREV VISIT TO FRANCE

Television Interview

LD192213 Moscow TASS in English 2200 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Paris, 19 Dec, TASS--Alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet Boris Ponomarev, who is heading a delegation from the foreign affairs commissions of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet, currently here, appeared today on French television. In the course of the programme he replied to the moderator's questions related to the publication in France of the book "Leonid Ilich Brezhnev: Pages From His Life."

Boris Ponomarev said that Soviet-French relations are developing quite satisfactorily in all areas--economy, culture and space exploration. Soviet people are convinced that the development of relations between our country and France is useful for our peoples and for peace in Europe and throughout the world. It is particularly important to stress it now. When the world witnesses an aggravation of the international situation, the Soviet Union is ready to do everything in order to deepen cooperation with France with a view to strengthening detente and overcoming the obstacles standing in its way.

Boris Ponomarev said that the book explains what we mean by detente. The Soviet Union repeatedly stated its opinion that detente should not be stopped, but, on the contrary, that detente in the political sphere should be complemented by detente in the military sphere. He said that two processes are developing in the world; on the one hand, peaceful coexistence is being asserted, on the other hand, the arms race is continuing. In the foreword to this book, the prominent figure of the present time, the leader of our party and our state Leonid Brezhnev vehemently, I would say, passionately, comes out in favour of spreading detente to the whole world.

There are some people and even certain circles in the West which do no want detente, are seeking to thwart it. You heard of such definition as "hawks" in the United States and other countries. They are trying to do everything to frustrate detente, to prevent peaceful life for many millions of people. This book explains why detente is needed for all peoples. And we think that on reading this work, French readers will realize the true, human essence of detente. For we regard detente as political relations between countries directed in favour of durable and just peace on earth.

Dwelling on relations between socialist countries, Boris Ponomarev said that they are a new type of relations between states and peoples. They are based on equality, respect for the sovereignty and independence of each country and at the same time on active cooperation in all affairs--in building socialism, in pursuing a coordinated line on the world arena. All this points to the truly new type of relations which is characteristic of our epoch, the 20th century. We believe that these relations are a good example for other countries.

As to Poland, the stand of the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community was outlined in the communique, known to the whole world, of the meeting of the leading figures of the Warsaw Treaty member states of December 5 this year.

Return Home

LD201740 Moscow TASS in English 1725 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] Moscow, 20 Dec, TASS--A delegation of the commissions of foreign affairs of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet headed by alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the Commission for Foreign Affairs of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet Boris Ponomarev today returned to Moscow from Paris where the delegation was staying at the invitation of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the National Assembly of France.

The delegation was met at the airport in Moscow by alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Vice President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Vasiliy K[illegible]etsov, by other officials.

ZAMYATIN MEETS FINNISH PEACE SUPPORTERS IN HELSINKI

LD190004 Moscow TASS in English 1535 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Helsinki 18 Dec, TASS--A meeting was held today between the leaders of the organisation [of] Finland's peace suppoters and Leonid Zamyatin, member of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Their talk touched upon issues relating to Soviet-Finnish relations, the Soviet Union's foreign policy as well as the international situation.

The meeting was attended by prominent Finnish public figures and politicians, member of parliament and government.

U.S.-IRANIAN NEGOTIATIONS ON HOSTAGES REPORTED

LD210848 Moscow TASS in English 0610 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Tehran, 20 Dec, TASS--The message from the Iranian Government to the U.S. administration on the problem of the hostages, sent with the Algerian delegation, contained demands to modify some of the provisions of the previous U.S. answer, said Iranian State Minister for Administrative Affairs B. Nabavi.

Iran, Nabavi said, demanded that the U.S. pledges, concerning fulfillment of the Iranian demand that the U.S. renounce interference in Iran's affairs, be brought fully in line with the precise text of the Iranian parliament's decision on this question. Iran also demands that the gold and currency deposits "frozen" in the United States be transferred to the Central Bank of Algeria.

Concerning the return of property stolen by the shah family and described by the U.S. administration as "private property", the United States, through the Algerian Government, must provide guarantees that this Iranian demand will also be fulfilled. The minister pointed out that the transfer of Iranian assets from the United States to Algeria must be effected prior to the release of the hostages.

U.S. State Department Spokesman Trattner confirmed that the United States had received Iran's answer to the "explanations" of the American position regarding the Iranian conditions to settle the conflict. The State Department spokesman declined to comment on the contents of the Iranian message confining himself to stressing that the process leading to the release of the hostages is "difficult, complex and very much time-consuming."

Yesterday, the problem of the American-Iranian conflict and Iran's answer, among others, came up for discussion at the weekly meeting in the White House, attended by President Carter, State Secretary Muskie, Defence Secretary Brown and the National Security Adviser to U.S. President Brzezinski. According to a CBS correspondent, at present the total Iranian assets "frozen" in the United States are worth 13 billion dollars. However, American banks and companies have filed suits in U.S. courts, suing Iran for a total sum of 7 billion dollars. That is why Washington is now considering a plan which would provide for the return to Iran only of the difference between the total assets and the sum claimed by U.S. banks and companies, i.e. something around 6 billion dollars.

Thus, what is being in the making is another U.S. hold-up against Iran.

TASHKENT EXPOSES U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN GULF AREA

GF201415 Tashkent International Service in Persian 1600 GMT 16 Dec 80

[Unattributed commentary: "The U.S. Policy of Intervention in Near and Middle Eastern Affairs"]

[Text] Events in the Near and Middle East are creating anxiety throughout the world. In this important strategic region, which is an international commerce junction, the dangerous Israeli-Arab conflict continues, and now the Iranian-Iraqi conflict has become an additional factor. Both countries have suffered great losses and the situation is becoming more complex. These conflicts do not look as if they can be resolved, but they can be solved given good will at a roundtable. All true friends of the Iranian and Iraqi peoples, all peace-loving countries invite the two countries to find a political solution to their differences.

But some powers are trying to use the Iranian-Iraqi conflict in their own interest and are pouring fuel on the flames of the war. This involves, above all, U.S. imperialism. The United States has long held covetous views on the Near and Middle East oil wealth. In January, 11 months ago, U.S. President Carter officially formulated Washington's claim to supervise this region and its natural resources. He said the United States considers this region as its vital interest and is ready to use force if necessary. A large number of Arab and other commentators point out that Washington can use each local conflict and killing of brothers to expand its military presence to possible military intervention in the Persian Gulf.

The United States' actions in the course of Iranian-Iraqi conflict prove the danger of the United States to the countries of the Near and Middle East. Washington has started big, unparalleled military buildups in the Persian Gulf. Truly massive naval forces have been stationed at the entrance to and in the Gulf. Two task force aircraft carriers with 200 fighter planes are part of this force. There are more than 60 Western military vessels in the Gulf region. U.S. air force planes equipped with the electronic AWAC system and capable of spying and directing fighter planes to the chosen targets have been sent to Saudi Arabia. Many times U.S. fighters and bombers have been transferred across the Atlantic to Egyptian bases, training for future military adventures. For the first time, the Rapid Deployment Force, which is designed to carry out the Pentagon's aggressive policies around the world, has carried out military maneuvers outside U.S. territory--in Egypt.

The United States has [word indistinct] military bases in Oman, Somalia and Kenya. The Pengaton's biggest military base in the Indian Ocean is on Diego Garcia. The U.S. and NATO military buildup in the eastern Mediterranean completes the dream of the U.S. military system and puts strong pressure on the Near and Middle East. At the moment the U.S. forces drawn to the Persian Gulf enjoy greater firepower than all the region's countries, and that is the imperialist aim in its effort to crush those countries which refuse to obey the orders of aliens. [Words indistinct] Pentagon, who are blind and deaf in their wish to govern the world, are fighting for the U.S. aim of military intervention in the Persian Gulf. This can be seen from U.S. Defense Secretary Brown's last interview. Justifying U.S. aggressive policies, he pretended the need to protect the oil resources. In this way he admitted that the issue is really to provide the U.S. oil monopolies, which plunder the wealth of the countries of this region.

All these plans make all peace-loving countries worry. The Soviet Union and other peace-loving countries have warned of the aliens' effort to intervene in this very dangerous region. Leonid Brezhnev has mentioned that use of weapons against others to impose one's will on them does not demonstrate a government's political intelligence. The Soviet Union, on the other hand, places its doctorine of peace and security against the imperialist policy of aggression and force against the Persian Gulf nations.

Leonid Brezhnev, in his speech in the Indian Parliament, suggested that the United States, other Western countries, China, Japan and other agreed countries should accept a mutual agreement on not allowing any military bases, the installation of nuclear weapons or other such weapons in the Persian Gulf. He said that the countries of the area have the right to self-determination and control over their natural resources. There should be no danger or obstacle to commerce and sea routes. Such agreements, which the countries of the area would naturally be involved in, correspond to all vital interests and international peace and cooperation.

RACHKOV DISCUSSES OPEC, ECONOMIC RESULTS OF WAR

LD202212 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 20 Dec 80

[First part of a series of talks by Soviet oil expert Boris Rachkov on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of OPEC]

[Summary] "In September 1980 a war broke out between Iraq and Iran, the two founders of OPEC along with Venezuela, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia in September 1960. This war has caused the death of thousands and destroyed scores of economic projects, including many oil-fields, pipelines and ports. The export of oil and its derivatives contracted sharply--exports which last year in Iraq reached 160 million tons and 120 million tons in Iran; which is, about 15 percent of OPEC's exports. Experts believe that reconstruction of the destroyed oil industry projects in the two countries will require at least a year. THE ARAB OIL AND GAS BULLETIN, published in Paris, has estimated the two countries' war losses during the first 2 months alone at $18 billion, that is, one-fifth of the GNP of Iraq and Iran last year. Leonid Brezhnev, secretary general of the CPSU Central Committee, asked in a recent speech in Delhi: Who benefits from this war?"

"No doubt, it is not Iraq or Iran. Their share is only the destroyed economy and the heavy human losses. Others, however, benefitted from the war. This is clear even now as foreign military penetration of the Middle East is taking place before the whole world. The unity of the Arab world is being shaken, a matter which only pleases enemies of the Arab peoples. What is more, there are plans to weaken the anti-imperialist inclination in the policies of Iraq and Iran. Therefore, the two neighboring peoples are paying the price (?in) their sons' blood."

Businessmen in the West hope to make huge profits from the orders for industrial equipment which will sooner or later be needed by the warring parties to reconstruct their economies.

"The USSR and other peace-loving states express deep anxiety over the conflict between Iraq and Iran. They call for an immediate halt to the fighting and for a political settlement of the conflict on an acceptable basis to both sides without any interference from any other party. Neocolonialist quarters do not now conceal their happiness at the current state of affairs in OPEC as a result of the Iraqi-Iranian conflict. UPI repeats the idea prevailing among neocolonialists to the effect that OPEC is finished. No doubt neocolonialism today wants not only to bury this economic organization of free countries but also to eliminate the cause for which it was set up. This issue will be dealt with in the second talk by Boris Rachkov, which you can hear tomorrow at the same time."

COMMENT ON YAMANI'S VIEWS ON GULF OIL, USSR

LD191148 Moscow TASS in English 0905 GMT 19 Dec 80

["Strange Logic of Mr. Yamani"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 19 Dec, TASS--TASS commentator Yuriy Tyssovskiy writes:

Western news agencies are rehashing the statement that Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources of Saudi Arabia Ahmad Zaki Yamani made in the National Press Club of Australia. They are emphasizing his pronouncement that the Soviet Union, allegedly, "threatens the Middle East and covets" its oil sources.

It must be said outright that if this pronouncement had come from Assistant to the U.S. President for National Security Affairs Brzezinski, it would not have received such a wide publicity, since anti-Soviet allegations of high-ranking geopolitician of the White House are too hackneyed. It is another thing when similar allegations come from "Mr Petroleum", as Western reporters nick-named Yamani who, in their opinion, is in a position to be very knowledgeable about "Soviet designs" concerning the Middle Eastern oil.

Wishing to give substance to these allegations, the Saudi minister attempted to create the impression of being well-informed. Having calculated, apparently with the use of the CIA computers, the Soviet Union's oil potential, he told the gathering that "sooner or later the Soviets will need the Middle Eastern oil" and hence...

Characteristic is the timing of Yamani's statement which was made after the negative response of the White House to the concrete Soviet proposals about the ensurance of security of the Persian Gulf zone. Could it be that Riyadh, whose officials, including Crown Prince Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, talked so many times about the dangerous consequences of the United States course at subjugating the Persian Gulf area with the use of the fist of mail, now decided to look at what is taking place with Brzezinski's eyes?

It is precisely Brzezinski who is trying to intimidate Arabs with a non-existent "Soviet menance", covering by this the real danger of the seizure of oil deposits of the Middle East by U.S. "Green Berets". Is Mr Yamani unaware why soldiers from the U.S. Rapid Deployment Corps are being drilled in the Mohawa Desert and in Egypt on a terrain similar to the conditions of the Gulf zone?

In this connection it is necessary to recall the wards that Leonid Brezhnev said to the Indian Parliament: "The USSR has no intention to encroach on Middle Eastern oil or the routes of its transportation". There is no doubt that if Mr Yamani reads attentively the text of the Soviet doctrine of peace, he will discover that practically each of its five provisions reflects the thoughts that coincide in some or other measure with the previous pronouncements of Saudi officials including himself, and meet the interests and aspirations of peoples of the Middle East.

AS-SADAT DONATION TO AFGHAN REBELS REPORTED

LD211810 Moscow TASS in English 1646 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Beirut, 21 Dec, TASS--According to reports coming here As-Sadat decided to "donate" about 1.5 million dollars for the Afghan counterrevolution. Thus, it was declared openly in Cairo that the As-Sadat regime is participating in financing the subversive operations against Democratic Afghanistan.

Political observers point out in this connection that this is not the only fact of the participation of the present Egyptian regime in the aggression against sovereign Afghanistan that took the road of the construction of new life. Egyptian instructors alongside with U.S., Pakistani and Chinese instructors are training in the Pakistani territory armed gangs that commit horrible crimes and acts of sabotage in the Afghan land. Considerable amounts of weapons and ammunitions with the trademark "made in Egypt" were taken from the gangs of thugs that were routed in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Afghan counter-revolutionary organisations such as Jam-iat-e Eslami, maintain close ties with the CIA and the Egyptian intelligence services partipating in the mustermining of the undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Seeking to "encourage" in some way the Afghan thugs that are suffering one crushing defeat after another in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, to push them to new crimes and bloody actions against the Afghan people, the As-Sadat regime, prompted by the United States, decided to stage in Cairo late in December a provocative undertaking, the so-called "week of solidarity with the Afghan people", which cannot be assessed in any other way but as gross interference in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. All these facts show that the As-Sadat regime obediently performs the role of a gendarme to preserve the interests of U.S. imperialism in the Near and Middle East, took to the dangerous road of interference in the affairs of sovereign and independent Afghanistan.

AS-SADAT INAUGURATES 'MUSLIM ANTILEAGUE'

LD191025 Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA in Russian 4 Dec 80 p 3

[APN-attributed article by G. Savin: "In Alliance With Hostile Muslim Forces"]

[Text] Commenting on Egyptian President as-Sadat's recent speech at the first session of the inaugural association of the so-called "League of Arab and Muslim Peoples," many observers believe that the Egyptian leader initiated, with this speech, a propaganda campaign aimed at regaining a place in the Islamic community. As is well know, Cairo was removed from it for its collusion with the Zionists. Now it is planning to return and take part in the third summit meeting of Islamic states scheduled for early December in Mecca.

Essentially Cairo reduced the procedure for cobbling together this "league," which all Islamic states without exception refused to join and which represented only a few splittist and counterrevolutionary organizations like the anti-Afghan ones, to one organizational measure--the formation of a special "Afghanistan bureau." According to the design of the Egyptian president's transtlantic prompters, this bureau was to become a sort of center for combating the lawful DRA Government. Cairo is hoping to cobble together some sort of Muslim association around this center and thus automatically find itself among the Islamic states.

As-Sadat's speech at the opening of the session of this "anti-league," as journalist circles have already dubbed it, was characterized by the fact that he turned from attacks against the Arab countries to attacks against the overwhelming majority of Islamic states, accusing them of "splittist activity" and "lack of unity." Here As-Sadat tried to present Egypt's isolation in the Islamic world for its collusion with Zionism and imperialist forces as a "split" and interpreted "unity" as the compulsory participation of Arabs and Muslims in all the imperialist forces' adventures, even if they were aimed against some Muslim peoples.

In delivering his speech on the first day of the 15th Century after the Hegira, As-Sadat hypocritically complained that now "Muslim brother is killing brother" and asked no less hypocritically "who is entering into alliance with foreign forces hostile to the Muslims?" The answer to this question is given by the policy and practical activity of the regime headed by As-Sadat himself.

Let us recall his well-known interview with U.S. jounalist Arnaud de Borchgrave after the October 1973 war in which the Egyptian president frankly stated that he had deliberately refused to close the "military pincers" behind the backs of the Israeli troops which had forced their way across the Suez Canal and refused to defeat them "for the sake of friendship with the West." Who was it if not As-Sadat who entered into a political alliance with Israel, which was still occupying Arab lands and refusing to recognize the Palestinian people's legitimate rights" who was it if not the Egyptian regime which is not concealing the fact that it is waging an undeclared war against the DRA role, fulfilling Washington's will? And who if not the Egyptian president invited to the country's terrotory the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces designed to fight the countries of the Near and Middle East, Asia and Africa? Let us also recall As-Sadat's recent appeal to the Western powers and above all to the United States to "supply him with long arms"--long-range weapons with which Cairo could "reach any Muslim country."

The path of betrayal of the interests of the Arabs has led As-Sadat so far that he is now betraying the interests of the entire Muslim world. Any Muslim and any Islamic capital, he asserts, reluctant to steer Washington's course to the full and without any exceptions are "Moscow agents."

Before the summit meeting in Mecca which plans to discuss questions of importance to Muslims such as the Iranian-Iraqi conflict and the Near East situation in the light of the extension of Zionist expansion and aggression, imperialism is not abandoning the attempts which are being undertaken through its agents to divert the Muslim's attention again from questions of importance to the Islamic world and to palm off the provocative "Afghan issue" on taking part. It wants in this way to increase the number of Islamic states which support the alliance with imperialist forces hostile to the Muslims.

PLO AIDE HAILS SOVIET ACHIEVEMENTS, FRIENDSHIP

LD191435 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 3 Dec 80 p 3

[TURKMENINFORM report: "Majid Abu Sharar: No Breaking a People's Will"]

[Text] Ashkhabad, 2 Dec--The Palestinian people value highly the support given to them by the Soviet Union in the struggle for their inalienable rights, said Majid Abu Sharar, leader of a Palestinian delegation now in Turkmenistan, member of the Palestinine National Council and general director of the PLO Unified Information Department.

We have seen for ourselves the Soviet people's sincere feelings of friendship and solidarity on our visits to the kolkhozes, sovkhozes, industrial enterprises and educational institutions of the republic.

Majid Abu Sharar expressed delight at Turkmenistan's achievements in the fraternal family of Soviet peoples. You display an iron will, he noted, you are conquering the desert that covers a large percent of the republic's territory. The area of desert here is continually decreasing, whereas ours is on the increase.

In our region--Majid Abu Sharar continued--international imperialism and Israeli Zionism are rapaciously plundering the riches of nature. But we are confident in the firm knowledge that the greater the successes achieved by the Soviet republics, the stronger and more effective is the aid given by the Soviet Union to all struggling peoples, including ours. The torch of our struggle will never go out. We will be able to withstand any onslaught of American imperialism, Zionism and Arab reaction; we will gain the right to self-determination and the creation of an independent Palestinian Arab state, the head of the Palestinian delegation said in conclusion.

The Palestinian comrades left Turkmenistan today.

CONCLUSION OF LIBYAN-SYRIAN NEGOTIATIONS NOTED

LD182359 Moscow TASS in English 2023 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Banghazi, 18 Dec, TASS--Official Libyan-Syrian negotiations between leader of the Libyan revolution Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and President of Syria Hafiz al-Asad have ended here. The sides considered questions pertaining to further steps of achieving unity between the two countries.

Decision has been taken to form a single national leadership and also a commission to draw up a practical programme of putting into life the decisions of the leadership of the two countries.

In a joint statement, that has been distributed here, it is emphasized that the sides are continuing consultations with a view to elaborate concrete measures of attaining unity. Having completed the official visit to Libya Hafiz al-Asad and the delegation who accompany him left Banghazi for Algeria.

BREZHNEV GREETS MAURITANIAN LEADER ON ANNIVERSARY

LD102240 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1930 GMT 10 Dec 80

[Text] Leonid Brezhnev has sent Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee of National Salvation, chief of state and Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, a telegram congratulating the friendly Mauritanian people and the president in person and wishing them happiness, prosperity and new successes on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of independence. The cable said: I express confidence that the friendly relations and cooperation between our two countries will be consolidated and developed in the interest of our two peoples and world peace. In his reply message, Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala expressed for the Mauritanian people, the Military Committee of National Salvation and on his own behalf sincere thanks for the congratulations and in return he extended to Leonid Brezhnev personally his most sincere greetings and wishes of prosperity to all the Soviet people.

SOUTH AFRICAN AGGRESSION AGAINST ANGOLA REPORTED

LD202240 Moscow TASS in English 1800 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] Luanda, 20 Dec, TASS--South Africa's racist regime with the complicity and support of Western powers is waging a veritable undeclared war against the People's Republic of Angola. This has been stated by Chairman of the MPLA-Workers' Party, President of the People's Republic of Angola Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

Speaking at the first extraordinary congress of the MPLA-Workers' Party, which is under way here, he pointed out that in the past 3 years South Africa's racists made about 2,000 intrusions into the territory of the People's Republic of Angola, committed more than 200 bombardments, they landed paratroopers 50 times, made more than 70 ground force attacks and 1,480 reconnaissance flights. As a result of Pretoria's barbarous actions, said Dos Santos, killed were 1,800 civilian Angolans and 3,000 were wounded, and the total damage inflicted by the racists is estimated at $7 billion.

The racist Pretoria regime has committed fresh acts of aggression against the People's Republic of Angola, runs a statement of the Defence Ministry of the People's Republic of Angola that has been distributed here.

Thus, on December 15 two South African Vimpala jet planes intruded into the Angolan Province of Cunene firing at a bus with passengers on the Shangongo-Mongoa Highway. There are casualties, as a result of the provocation.

On December 17 South Africa's tanks fired at the frontier post of Santa Clara in the Cunene Province. On the same day racist units penetrated into the Angolan territory in the Melonga-Moloemba direction. Simultaneously South Africa's ground troops, supported by armoured vehicles, military-transport means and helicopters, made an incursion in the area of Onague, and two Hercules troop-carrier aircraft landed paratroopers there.

Drawing the attention of the international public to these new aggressive acts by South Africa's military, the statement stresses, the People's Republic of Angola urges that measures be taken against the inhuman Pretoria regime, the main source of wars in the south of Africa.

MACHEL COMMENTS AT CLOSE OF FRELIMO MEETING

LD191714 Moscow TASS in English 1355 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Maputo, 19 Dec, TASS--Strengthening of friendship and cooperation in every way in all spheres with the USSR and other fraternal socialist countries is a principled direction of the foreign policy of the People's Republic of Mozambique. This was said at the closure of the eight plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Frelimo Party by Chairman of the party, President of the People's Republic of Mozambique Samora Machel.

Samora Machel confirmed the loyalty of the Mozambique people to the course of building socialism, pointed to the leading role of the Frelimo Party in the social and economic development of the Mozambique society. The chairman of the party stressed that Mozambique is determined to continue the tireless struggle for the consolidation of the revolutionary gains in the south of Africa.

REPORTAGE ON SECOND CUBAN CP CONGRESS IN HAVANA

19 Dec Session

LD191222 Moscow TASS in English 1126 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Havana, 19 Dec, TASS--The delegates of the Second Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba approved on Thursday the report of the Central Committee of the party. In their statements delegates make concrete proposals concerning the basic guidelines for the economic and social development of the country with a view to raising the living standards of the working people and strengthening the first socialist state in the Western Hemisphere. They stress the great importance of Cuba's participation in socialist economic integration and its all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union.

The heads of the delegations of communist and workers' parties point in their statements to the important contribution made by the Communist Party and Government of Cuba to the struggle for peace, for consolidating detente, and for cooperation between states. They point out that Cuba's consistent and principled foreign policy has earned it well-deserved international prestige, while the experience of the Cuban revolution has become an inspiring example for the peoples fighting for their freedom and independence.

Legesse Asfau, the leader of the Ethiopian delegation, member of the Executive Committee of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia, expressed gratitude to the Republic of Cuba for its internationalist assistance to Ethiopia and other developing countries.

Marcelino dos Santos, representative of the delegation of the Mozambique National Liberation Front, spoke at the congress of the important part played by Cuba in the non-aligned movement.

The speech made by Konstantin Chernenko, the leader of the CPSU delegation, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was heard with great attention.

At the afternoon meeting the congress delegates unanimously approved a resolution on certain changes in the rules of the Communist Party of Cuba with due account taken of the experience of the party's practical work since this document was adopted by the first congress. The congress also approved draft resolutions on improving the organs of people's power, their attitude to religion, church and believers, resolutions on mass media, on the problems of ideological struggle, on the party's policy in preparing, selecting, allocating, and promoting personnel and raising its skill, on the agrarian question and on the attitude to the peasantry, on the education of children and youth, on science and technology, and on the party's platform.

20 Dec Session

LD191904 Moscow TASS in English 1827 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Havana, 19 Dec, TASS--TASS correspondents Oleg Kolesnikov and Nikolay Chigir report:

The Second Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba is continuing its work at the Havana Palace of Congresses. The delegates of the supreme party forum are analyzing in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere the results of the work done over the five-year period and are discussing topical questions of the further socio-economic and political development of the republic.

Representatives of production and agricultural collectives, party workers, workers in science and culture proudly speak about great and obvious achievements of the Cuban people which, under the guidance of the Communist Party, is confidently resolving the tasks of socialist construction. The congress discusses in earnest at the same time what is to be done to eliminate the existing shortcomings and bottlenecks, improve the use of reserves for the advancement of the national economy and raise the wellbeing of the working people.

The delegates approved with great enthusiasm the resolution on the report of the Central Committee which was delivered on the first day by Fidel Castro. The resolution says that the report is an important analytical document, an example of how each communist should regard with selfcriticism the work done and realistically outline new tasks. The resolution stresses that the Second Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba fully approves of all the provisions of the report and, taking into account the great importance of the documents, adopts a decision to study it thoroughly at all party, young communist, trade union and other mass organisations of Cuba.

The delegates unanimously approved a resolution on some changes in the rules of the Communist Party of Cuba, as well as a number of other resolutions which confirm the importance and vitality of the decisions of the first party congress on principal questions of socialist construction, internal and external policy of the party.

The second congress recorded in its decisions that the documents adopted by the first party congress are valid at the present time. Enriching those documents with the experience of recent years, the congress expresses the conviction that their principal political directives remain the guiding line for the period of the new five years, and the years to follow.

The delegates unanimously approved the draft guidelines of the economic and social development of Cuba for 1981-1885, considered in detail by the appropriate working commission of the congress, as the basic document for the elaboration of state national economic plans in the forthcoming five year-period.

The congress will continue its work tomorrow.

Resolution on Foreign Policy

LD201722 Moscow TASS in English 1647 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] Havana, 20 Dec, TASS--The main aim of Cuba's policy in the international arena has been and remains contributing to the cause of socialism, of the emancipation of the peoples, of progress and peace, says the resolution on foreign policy adopted by the Second Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba. The resolution points out that the foreign policy of the Cuban revolution follows the firm principled line based on the Marxist-Leninist teachings, proletarian internationalism, friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community, on the close ties of solidarity with the communists, workers' and revolutionary movements in all the parts of the globe, on the active stand on the side of the national-liberation movements and peoples waging the struggle for their development, to defend their historical vital interests.

The foreign policy of the Communist Party of Cuba, the document stresses, is based on the unbreakable historic alliance with the Soviet Union, an alliance based on the commonality of ideology and objectives. The five years that have elapsed provide a bright evidence of the importance of such unity for the development of the proletarian internationlism, for the support of the heroic resolve of the Cuban people to pay any price to protect its independence and its revolution.

At the same time, the resolution notes further, the Communist Party of Cuba and the revolutionary state it provides leadership to will continue to make efforts aimed at the further consolidation of the fraternal ties with other parties, governments and peoples of the socialist community. The resolution points out that the process of relaxation of international tensions, which brought relief and so many hopes to mankind, was made possible by the decisive influence of the peaceful foreign policy of the Soviet Union. Responsibility for the slowing down of that difficult process which had hardly begun fully and wholly rests with imperialism and, in the first place, with U.S. imperialists.

The Second Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba is of the view that the cause of detente can be saved in the current situation, too. Such a possibility is made available above all by the firm and consistently peaceful policy of the Soviet Union, pursued in cooperation with other countries of the socialist community and with the support of all the progressive forces.

The Cuban communists condemn the treacherous policy of the Chinese leaders, which has done enormous damage to the world revolutionary movement. The policy of the Chinese leaders, the resolution says, constitutes a serious threat to peace in the world, encourages the activities of the bellicose elements and adventurism in international relations.

The congress reiterates that normalization of relations with the United States will depend on the readiness of the U.S. administration to lift the blockade, to return the Cuban territory in which the Guantanamo naval base is situated and to renounce encroachments on Cuban's sovereignty.

Economic Guidelines Approved

LD202046 Moscow TASS in English 1851 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] Havana, 20 Dec, TASS--The delegates of the Second Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba unanimously approved one of the most important documents, the guidelines for the economic and social development of Cuba for 1981-1985. The document stresses that the Cuban people under the guidance of their Marxist-Leninist party, fulfilling the decisions of the first congress of the party have scored considerable successes in a number of important aspects in the economic and social spheres. The results of the outgoing 5-year period are positive on the whole. Another step was made along the road of the country's industrialization which has ensured the conditions for the implementation of social transformations necessary for the construction of socialism in Cuba. The results achieved open the way for further development of the socialist economy, for raising the standards of the people's life, for new victories for the sake of socialism.

The main task set out by the second congress for 1981-1985 is to advance steadily along the road of socialist industrialization to create a material and technological base of socialism. An annual 5 percent increase of the gross national product and of the national income is envisaged, to be achieved by the maximum increase of the effectiveness of the economic activity. Large and important tasks are set to the working people in all the branches of the national economy. It is planned, specifically, to increase in the new 5-year period the output of sugar by 20-25 percent on the previous 5-year period. The output in the metallurgical industry will be considerably increased.

Major tasks are advanced in the sphere of agriculture. They will be implemented mainly through a steady increase of the yield of crops, of the productivity of livestock breeding, through the increase of the number of cattle, the widening of cultivated areas and a better use of material and manpower resources.

Priority significance is attached to the steady rise of the prosperity of the working people, to the development of science and technology, education and culture, health services and sports.

The international economic ties, commercial, financial, scientific, technological and economic cooperation will be widened and deepened in the coming 5-year period. The document stresses that one of the most important tasks in this sphere is the development of bilateral economic, scientific and technological ties with socialist countries, particularly with the Soviet Union, the widening of Cuba's participation in the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance to deepen further the economic integration with the CMEA member-countries.

Congress Ends

LD211040 Moscow TASS in English 0808 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Havana, 21 Dec, TASS--TASS special correspondents report:

The second Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba has closed in a ceremony attended by more than a million Cuban working people in Havana. The participants in the meeting expressed full fupport to the decisions of the communist forum and the newly-elected leading bodies of the party headed by Fidel Castro. Representatives of the country's mass public organizations stressed at the meeting the unanimous will of the Cuban people to translate into life the decisions of the party congress.

The cordial reception accorded by the participants in the meeting to foreign delegations which arrived for the congress became a demonstration of internationalism of the Cuban people, its support to the internationalist policy of the Communist Party of Cuba.

The participants in the meeting burst into prolonged applause when First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers Fidel Castro appeared on the rostrum to sum up the work of the congress.

Dwelling on the international situation, Fidel Castro pointed out that the current situation in the world is complicated and difficult. Efforts by all means of goodwill are needed to stop the arms race, ease tensions all over the world and prevent the outbreak of nuclear war. Fidel Castro condemned the militaristic course of U.S. imperialism.

Fidel Castro said that while there exists the Soviet Union, while there exists Cuba, our links will be firm, for we are a revolutionary, staunch, faithful and noble people.

CHERNENKO ATTENDS RECEPTION, MEETS WITH CASTRO

Reception Given

LD210712 Moscow TASS in English 0703 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Havana, 21 Dec, TASS--The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba gave a reception on the occasion of the completion of the work of the party's second congress. The reception, which passed in an atmosphere of comrade-ship and brotherhood, was attended by Fidel Castro, party and state leaders of Cuba, delegates to the congress as well as by foreign delegations that attended the congress and among them the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) delegation led by Konstantin Chernenko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Meets With Castro

LD220940 Moscow TASS in English 0905 GMT 22 Dec 80

[Text] Havana, 22 Dec, TASS--Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the republic, met with member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Konstantin Chernenko here on Sunday.

Profound satisfaction was expressed during the conversation with the consolidation of the bonds of friendship and fraternity between the communist parties and the peoples of the two countries and the successful development of their all-round cooperation in line with the Soviet-Cuban declaration signed by Leonid Brezhnev and Fidel Castro in Havana on February 2, 1974.

Konstantin Chernenko said about the Soviet Union's preparations for the 26th CPSU Congress and about the tasks which are being resolved by Soviet communists, the whole Soviet people. He congratulated Fidel Castro with the successful completion of the second congress of Cuban communists which outlined new objectives in socialist construction and elaborated the party's political line for the forthcoming five-year period.

An exchange of views was held on topical questions of international life which confirmed once again the full identity of stands of the two parties, their determination to strive for strengthening the cohesion of the world communist movement, to facilitate in all ways the deepening of cooperation of the forces of socialism and national liberation, and to coordinate their actions in the struggle for peace and social progress.

The meeting, conducted in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, was attended from the Cuban side by Second Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba Raul Castro.

RPD CLAIMS FAR-FLUNG CIA OPERATION IN LATIN AMERICA

PY220242 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Spanish to Latin America 0130 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] In El Salvador the patriots have liquidated the U.S. CIA adviser to the National Police, Thomas Bracken. This Yankee official was directly involved in the military actions undertaken against the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front.

[Words indistinct] Tom Bracken was just another cog in the great U.S. machine which is carrying out an open armed Yankee intervention in the domestic affairs of El Salvador and the other Latin American countries. Tom's ignominious demise in one of San Salvador's suburbs [word indistinct] clearly shows the lack of historic foresight and the criminal nature of the U.S. policy. It proves that the Latin Americans have been and will continue to oppose gringo attacks against their sovereignty and national dignity.

In fact, a struggle of unprecedent cruelty took place this year between Latin American liberation movements and the United States secret services. This struggle reached its peak in the Caribbean where the CIA has been conducting a far-flung operation aimed at recovering the economic and political footholds which the Yankees had lost.

Within the framework of this operation, CIA agents have provoked social misfits to carry out disturbances in Cuba allegedly seeking respect for the much ballyhooed human rights. Thugs, prostitutes and other leading actors who did not have time to run away, sought asylum at certain embassies demanding to be sent to the place where their professions are appreciated, that is, to the United States. The Cuban Government allowed them to leave the country. The bandits who [word indistinct] representatives of the government received deserved punishment.

Together with the uproar caused in Cuba, the CIA has conducted many other, more harmful and dangerous, actions in Nicaragua, Grenada, Jamaica, El Salvador, Guatemala and other countries of the area.

For example, in Grenada CIA agents had carried out a veritable hunt of leaders of the revolutionary government and members of the security forces. The terrorists killed several soldiers, blew up the government's reviewing stand during official ceremonies. However, the CIA has not attained its basic objective. Grenada's revolutionary regime has implemented defensive measures which have turned out to be successful.

In Nicaragua, the Americans developed throughout this year a subversive operation of unprecedented proportions. Sandinist security organizations have discovered and neutralized dozens of small and large terrorist groups of all kinds, who had in common money, (?training) and instructions received from the CIA.

During public trials the Nicaraguans have uncovered the nefarious role played by the United States which seeks to overthrow the current government. They also proved the existence of a broad imperialist conspiracy against that independent state.

Nicaragua is still fighting imperialist agents. There are casualties on both sides but the toll is obviously favorable to the revolutionaries who are pulling out by the roots the weeds which the CIA has sown in Sandino's land.

This year the CIA has bogged down in El Salvador. There events have taken a turn which the Yankee spies were unable to foresee: the military and organizational merger of the opposition aimed at launching a general uprising of the people and overthrowing the oligarchic tyrants.

In view of this situation, the CIA has been forced to use its own task force units and advisers against the patriots and democrats. According to available information, several hundred U.S. agents and military men are currently in El Salvador. They are engaged in pinpointing patriotic units, burning down villages, directing raids, guiding the bombers against areas under revolutionary control. However, despite all this the CIA and the Salvadoran oligarchy have been unable to squash the popular movement, even though they have resorted to subtle demagogery and medieval violence which has cost more than 10,000 lives this year alone.

Perhaps the number of innocent victims alone is enough to judge the results of CIA's dirty work in Latin America. The [words indistinct] in Jamaica are nothing compared to the efforts and money spent by the CIA in Latin America. The ignominious death of the imperialist mercenary Tom Bracken in El Salvador is good evidence for any evaluation.

GILASHVILI COMMENTS ON VISIT TO COLOMBIA

LD191401 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Dec 80 Morning Edition p 5

[Correspondent interview with P.G. Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium: "Strengthening Cooperation"; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Excerpts] Recently a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation visited Colombia. An IZVESTIYA correspondent asked the delegation leader, P.G. Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to share his impressions of his visit to Colombia.

The delegation members had numerous conversations with statesmen, politicians and representatives of the public and business circles, and whenever international problems were mentioned, questions connected with the need to consolidate peace and detente, to effect disarmament and end the arms race were at the forefront. We must do everything to maintain peace in our world, Dias Granados, chairman of the Colombian Senate, declared.

Much attention was naturally devoted during the course of the conversations to relations between the USSR and Colombia. And here the coincidence of the two countries' views may be noted with satisfaction--efforts must be made to further strengthen Soviet-Colombian cooperation in various spheres.

Special interest is being displayed in Colombia in expanding economic and trade ties with the Soviet Union. The volume of trade between our countries has increased this year, but there are still many unutilized opportunities here. As is known, in 1977 a general agreement on design, delivery and installation of equipment for the Alto Sinui hydroelectric complex was signed with Colombia. It is currently in the process of implementation, and in the opinion of those we spoke to on this question, its implementation will play an important role in the development of the country's national economy.

During our stay in Colombia we witnessed sincere expressions of friendly sentiments toward the Soviet people. The Colombians think highly of the Soviet Union's contribution to the struggle for peace and international security.

The visit by the USSR Supreme Soviet Delegation will without doubt further strengthen Soviet-Colombian relations. Colombia's National Congress leaders confirmed their readiness to continue and to broaden the exchange between the two countries on the parliamentary level.

BRAZILIAN CONGRESS DEPUTIES MEET WITH SHITIKOV

LD191643 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Dec 80 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Brazilian Parliamentarians in Moscow"]

[Text] A delegation from the Chamber of Deputies of Brazil's National Congress, headed by Flavio Portella Marsillo, president of the chamber, has arrived in Moscow on an official visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The delegation visited the USSR Supreme Soviet 9 December. A.P. Shitikov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Union, welcomed the guests.

During a conversation the aspiration of strengthen the relations and mutually advantageous cooperation in the interests of the Soviet and Brazilian peoples was expressed. Interparliamentary contacts between the USSR and Brazil are also intended to contribute to this.

Flavio Portella Marsillo expressed gratitude for the opportunity offered to the members of the delegation to become acqainted with the life of the Soviet Union.

V.K. Akulintsev and V.S. Alkhimov, deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet, V.G. Vysotin, chief of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium International Relations Department, and also S. Pontes Nogueira, the Brazilian ambassador to the USSR, took part in the conversation.

The Brazilian parliamentarians visited the museum "Study and apartment of V.I. Lenin in the Kremlin" and toured the Great Kremlin Palace.

The guests laid a wreath at the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum. A wreath was also laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Solier at the Kremlin Wall.

REPORTAGE ON DEATH OF ALEKSEY NIKOLAYEVICH KOSYGIN

TASS Report

LD200906 Moscow TASS in English 0903 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] Moscow, 20 Dec, TASS--The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers inform with deep sorrow that prominent leader of the Communist Party and the Soviet state, member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Twice Hero of Socialist Labour Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin has succumbed to a grave long illness at the age of 76 on December 18, 1980.

Kosygin Obituary

LD221135 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Dec 80 p 2

[Text] Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin, aged 76, member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet and Twice Hero of Socialist Labor, died on 18 December after a long and grave illness.

An eminent figure of the Communist Party and Soviet state, who devoted all his strength and knowledge and his great experience in party and state work to the great cause of communist construction, has departed this life.

Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin was born on 21 February 1904 in the city of Leningrad to a worker's family. He became a member of the CPSU in 1927. At the age of 15 he was a volunteer in the ranks of the Red Army. In subsequent years he worked in the consumer cooperatives system.

After finishing the Leningrad Kirov Textile Institute in 1935 he became a foreman, shift leader, factory director, chief of a department of the Leningradskaya Obkom and chairman of the Leningrad Gorispolkom.

In 1939 Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin became a people's commissar for the USSR textile industry. In 1940 he became deputy chairman of the USSR Council of People's Commissars, and from 1943 to 1946 he was at the same time chairman of the RSFSR Council of People's Commissars.

During the years of the Great Patriotic War, at the behest of the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party and the State Defense Committee, he carried out special tasks connected with the restructuring of the national economy to satisfy the needs of the front.

In the postwar years Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin worked as deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Minister and at the same time as USSR minister for finance, then as USSR minister for light industry and chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee.

In 1960 he became first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. From 1964 to October 1980 Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin worked as chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

In all the posts to which the Communist Party appointed Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin he showed himself to be a major organizer of economic construction, took an active part in pursuing the foreign political course of the USSR, and loyally served our motherland and the Soviet people. He was distinguished by lofty party-minded qualities, a profound knowledge of his work, and an exactingness and principledness in implementing the party's policy.

Utter devotion to the ideals of communism, selfless labor for the good of the Soviet state, modesty and a tactful attitude toward people earned Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin high authority in the party and among the people.

Since the 18th CPSU Congress Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin was a member of the CPSU Central Committee. He was frequently elected as a candidate member and a member of the Presidium and Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee. He had been a deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet and of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet from the Second to the Tenth Convocation.

For great services to the Communist Party and Soviet State, Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin was twice award the title of Hero of Socialist Labor. He was awarded six Orders of Lenin, Orders of the October Revolution and the Red Banner, and many medals.

The shining memory of Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin, loyal son of the Communist Party and the Soviet people, who gave his entire life to the great cause of the construction of communism, will forever remain in the hearts of the Soviet people.

[Signed] L.I. Brezhnev, YU. V. Andropov, M.S. Gorbachev, V.V. Grishin, A.A. Gromyko, A.P. Kirilenko, D.A. Kunayev, A.Ya Pelshe, G.V. Romanov, M.A. Suslov, N.A. Tikhonov, D.F. Ustinov, K.U. Chernenko, V.V. Shcherbitskiy, G.A. Aliyev, P.N. Demichev, T.Ya. Kisilev, V.V. Kuznetsov, B.N. Ponomarev, Sh. R. Rashidov, M.S. Solomentsev, E.A. Shevardnadze, I.V. Kapitonov, V.I. Dolgikh, M.V. Zimyanin, K.V. Rusakov, G.F. Sizov, I.V. Arkhipov, M.P. Georgadze, A.P. Shitikov, V.P. Ruben, A.K. Antonov, N.K. Baybakov, I.I. Bodyul, V.E. Dymshits, K.F. Katushev, L.A. Kostandov, V.N. Makeyev, N.V. Martynov, G.I. Marchuk, I.T. Novikov, Z. N. Nuriyev, L.V. Smirnov, N.V. Talyzin, M.S. Smirtyukov, V.F. Garbuzov, A.N. Shkolnikov, N.N. Tarasov, A.I. Shivayev, B.N. Pastukhov and L.A. Borisov.

Times To Visit Hall

LD220640 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 22 Dec 80

[Text] From the government commission to arrange the funeral of Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin: The government commission reports that access to the Red Banner Hall of the Central House of the Soviet Army to bid farewell to the late Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin is open today from 1000 to 1800.

Brezhnev, Others in Honor Guard

LD221154 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 22 Dec 80

[Text] Moscow is bidding farewell to Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin. The Soviet people received with profound grief the news of the death of Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin, the prominent figure of the Communist Party and Soviet state, member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The heart of the major organizer of economic building has stopped beating. He gave all his strength, knowledge and great experience of party and state work to the great cause of communist construction.

Wherever Aleksey Nikolayevich was sent by the Communist Party, he loyally served the motherland and the Soviet people, displaying lofty party qualities, profound knowledge of the matter and exactingness and principled attitude in the implementation of CPSU policy.

Boundlessly loyal to the ideals of communism, Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin, actively participated in the conduct of the Soviet Union's foreign policy.

The Central House of the Soviet Army: on its facade there is the portrait of Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin draped with crepe. Here, in the Red Banner Hall, on the pedestal surrounded by flowers, stands the coffin with the body of the deceased. The flow of the Muscovites who have come to bid farewell to Aleksey Nikolayevich is endless.

In front of the pedestal on scarlet cushions lie the decorations which marked the great services of Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin for the Communist Party and Soviet state: two Hammer and Sickle of the Hero of Socialist Labor gold medals, six Orders of Lenin, orders of the October Revolution and Red Banner and numerous medals of the USSR.

Over his head are lowered scarlet banners. At the pedestal there rests the wreath from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers. More wreaths are being brought into the hall: from the Central Committees of the republican Communist Parties, the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers, USSR and RSFSR ministries and departments, the Moscow Gorkom and Gorispolkom, the Moscow Obkom and Obispolkom the obkoms and obispolkoms, public organizations and from relatives and next-of-kin of the deceased.

Funeral music is being played. The first Guard of Honor is manned by members of the governmental commission for organization of the funeral.

The clock shows 1200. The Guard of Honor is replaced by Comrades Brezhnev, Andropov, Gorbachev, Grishin, Gromyko, Kirilenko, Pelshe, Suslov, Tikhonov, Ustinov, Demichev, Kuznetsov, Ponomarev, Solomentsev, Kapitonov, Zimyanin and Rusakov.

Afterward, the Soviet party and state leaders approach the relatives and next-of-kin of Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin and express profound condolences to them.

Tens of thousands of Muscovites are on their way to the Red Banner Hall--workers of enterprises, sovkhozes, kolkhozes, farmers, party, trade union and Komsomol workers, servicemen of the Soviet Army, scientists and culture workers, representatives of public organizations, and students are bidding farewell to the loyal son of the Communist Party and Soviet people.

His selfless work for the well-being of the Soviet state, his modesty and sensitive attitude to people have earned for Aleksey Nikolayevich profound respect and lofty prestige among the aprty and the people.

The Guard of Honor is changing every 3 minutes. It is manned by the deputy chairmen of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers, chairmen of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet, ministers, leaders of party and administrative bodies of Moscow and the oblast and military leaders.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DEPUTY CHAIRMEN APPOINTED

LD191656 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1640 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Moscow, 19 Dec (TASS)--By decrees of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Aleksey Antonov has baen appointed deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and released from his duties as minister of the electrical equipment industry; Ivan Bodyul has been appointed deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Vladimir Novikov has been released from his duties as deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers in connection with his retirement on pension.

SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM APPOINTS NEW MINISTERS

LD211130 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1105 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Moscow, 21 Dec (TASS)--The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Anatoliy Mayorets minister of the electrical equipment industry. Sergey Burenkov has been appointed USSR health minister, and Boris Petrovskiy has been relieved of these duties in connection with his transfer to other work.

Ivan Silayev has been appointed USSR Minister of Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry. Anatoliy Kostousov has been relieved of these duties in connection with his retirement on pension.

The Presidium has appointed Vitaliy Chudin Minister of Construction, Road and Municipal Machine building and has relieved Yefim Novoselov of these duties in connection with his retirement on pension.

Aleksandr Kovalenko has been appointed chairman of the USSR State Committee for Material Reserves. Aleksandr Kokarev has been relieved of these duties in connection with his retirement on pension.

RASHIDOV ATTENDS TASHKENT PARTY ELECTION MEETING

LD211225 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Summary] The city report-back and election party conference opened in Tashkent today.

"Taking part in the conference's work is Comrad Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and First secretary of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee."

City report-back and election conferences have been convened today also in Frunze, Tallinn, Chelyabinsk, Permi, Ust-Kut and other cities.

SHEVARDNADZE ADDRESSES GEORGIAN KOMSOMOL PLENUM

LD2208939 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 12 Dec 80 p 1

[GRUZINFORM report: "Georgian Komsonol Central Committee Plenum]

[Text] A Georgian Komsomol Central Committee Plenum was held 11 December to consider organizational questions.

The plenum released Zh. K. Shartava from his duties as first secretary and Bureau member of the Georgian Komsomol Central Committee in connection with his reassignment to party work.

The plenum elected L.N. Ordzhonikidze first secretary of the Georgian Komsomol Central Committee, releasing him from his duties as second secretary of the Georgian Komsomol Central Committee.

The plenum elected I.I. Khutsishvili second secretary of the Georgian Komsomol Central Committee, releasing him from his duties as secretary of the Georgian Komsomol Central Committee.

The plenum elected V.G. Lordkipanidze secretary and Bureau member of the Georgian Komosomol Central Committee.

The plenum elected A.I. Shcherbakov secretary and Bureau member of the Georgian Komosomol Central Committee.

E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, delivered a speech at the plenum.

Participating in the work of the plenum were S. Ye. Khabeishvili, chief of the Georgian CP Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department, and V.I. Partnov, responsible organizer of the all-union Komsomol Central Committee.

SHEVARDNADZE ATTENDS MONUMENT SOCIETY CONGRESS

LD211230 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Summary] The sixth congress has been held in Tbilisi of the Georgian Society for the Protection of Cultural Monuments. Twelve thousand monuments of history, architecture and archeology have been registered by the society. Annually in the republic more than R3 million are spent on their restoration. "Taking part in the congress was Comrade Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee."

GRISHIN SPEAKS AT ENERGY INSTITUTE CEREMONY

LD200405 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] The Moscow Energy Institute is 50 years old. Its collective has made great contributions in the annals of technical progress to the establishment of the front ranking branch of Soviet industry. For its services in obtaining highly qualified specialist for the national economy and the development of the homeland's science, the Moscow Energy Institute collective has been awarded the Order of the October Revolution.

Today a solemn meeting was held in the Hall of Columns of the House of Union. A speech was delivered by Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom of the CPSU, who was warmly greeted by those present. He read the decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium concerning the award to the Moscow Energy Institute of the Order of the October Revolution and, to the stormy applause of those gathered there, pinned the award on the banner of the VUZ.

PASSPORT RENEWALS DELAYED DESPITE WARNINGS

LD181037 Moscow TRUD in Russian 10 Dec 80 p 4

[V.Tolstov "Commentary": "Soviet Passport"]

[Text] The USSR MVD was announced a month-long all-union review of passport work. It is taking place on the eve of 1981, when the exchange of passports will be completed in our country. Militia Maj Gen V. Borisenkov, deputy chief of the USSR MVD Main Administration for maintenance of public order, speaks about this work of the internal affairs organs.

In many parts of the country--Moscow and Moskovskaya Oblast, Kiev, Leningrad, the Checheno-Ingushskaya ASSR and elsewhere--the exchange of passports has taken place to the accompaniment of the citizens' high activeness and is now almost complete. It is interesting that the presentation of the basic document of the citizen of the Soviet Union has given rise to new solemn rituals. Young Leningraders, for example, have been presented with passports on board the cruiser Avrora. Of course, such an event remains in a person's memory throughout his life.

The exchange of passports has demanded a big effort of MVD organs. Passport service employees have sometimes had to travel to almost inaccessible parts of Taymyr and to remote islands of the Kuril chain. At harvest time passport tables were operating in the fields most convenient for citizens.

This work is now drawing to an end. The Soviet passport system has been improved, and it contributes to citizens' further education in the spirit of patriotism and awareness and to the strengthening of discipline and public order.

Approximately 30 million more new passports have to be issued next year. The old-format passports will become invalid as of 1 January 1982. It will no longer be possible to use them to obtain an air ticket, pension or money order. This must be taken into account by those who, despite all the warnings and requests from MVD organs, have still not exchanged their passport for a new one. In 1982 such citizens could be liable to a fine. The month-long all-union review of passport work announced by the USSR NVD will help improve the work of passport apparatuses in serving the population, and during it the suggestions made by citizens will be taken into consideration.

EVENKIYSKIY OKRUG CONGRATULATED ON ANNIVERSARY

LD191423 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 12 Dec 80 p 1

[Text] To the Evenkiyskiy CPSU Okruzhkom,

To the Evenkiyskiy Okrug Soviet of Peoples' Deputies.

The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers cordially congratulate the communists and all working people of twice order-bearing Soviet Evenkia on the glorious festival--the 50th anniversary of the Evenkiyskiy Autonomous Okrug's formation.

The establishment of small ethnic groups' national autonomy was an event of great political significance. As a result of the consistent implementation of the Leninist nationalities policy under CPSU leadership and with the selfless fraternal aid of the Great Russian people and of all our motherland's peoples, the Evenkiys, Yakuts and Kets have achieved considerable successes in economic and cultural development. Rich natural resources are being opened up in the okrug and traditional economic sectors--reindeer breeding, the fur and fish industries as well as fur farming and dairy livestock raising--are being expanded. A broad network of schools, medical and cultural-enlightenment institutions has been established. All nationalities have received their own written language and national cadres have grown up. The indigenous population's material and cultural living standards are improving steadily.

The okrug is successfully implementing the socioeconomic program determined by the 25th party congress, by subsequent Central Committee plenums and by instructions from Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. During the nationwide socialist competition for a fitting greeting to the 26th party congress, the autonomous okrug's labor collectives are fulfilling ahead of schedule the plans of the 10th 5-Year Plan for the procurement of furs and for the sale to the state of meat, milk and fish.

The successes of the okrug's working people in developing their productive forces and culture have been commemorated by the orders of the Labor Red Banner and the Peoples' Friendship.

Major new measures for economic and cultural growth and for increasing the prosperity of the okrug's working people were formulated in the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Measures for the Further Economic and Social Development of the Regions Inhabited by the Nationalities of the North."

The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers express firm confidence that Soviet Evenkia's working people, led by the Okrug party organization, will achieve considerable successes in communist building and will greet the 26th CPSU Congress with new labor successes.

[Signed] The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers

RASHIDOV ADDRESSES MEETING ON LIVING STANDARDS

LD191703 Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 4 Dec 80 pp 1, 3

[UZTAG report: "The Good of Man is the Supreme Goal"]

[Excerpts] The CPSU Central Committee draft for the 26th party congress "The Main Directions of the USSR's Economic and Social Development in 1981-1985 and the Period up to 1990" determined the tenor of discussion at a session of the republic council for improving the population's everyday life, held on 2 December. The session was chaired by Sh. R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbek CP Central Committee.

In a speech delivered at the session Sh.R. Rashidov stressed that concern for man and his well-being has always been and remains the supreme goal of the Communist Party and the Soviet state. All Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speeches are full of such concern and it is graphically expressed in the draft main directions of the country's economic and social development submitted by the CPSU Central Committee for nationwide discussion at the 26th party congress.

Improving maternity and child care is of particular importance. Children are our future and caring for their health and raising the younger generation are party and state tasks of paramount importance, and the level of our culture is determined by the concern shown for mothers. It is essential that broader use is made of the good experience accumulated in the field of maternity and child care, that potential existing in the republic for developing a network of health and preschool establishments is more fully tapped and that people become imbued with a deep esense of responsibility for this supremely important field of work.

The question of providing the working people with well-appointed housing is an integral part of the program for improving people's well-being. In addition to new construction work the most serious attention must be given to improving the condition of the existing housing stock. It is essential that the standard of maintenance work in both residential and nonresidential buildings is raised, that an efficient repair and maintenance service be established in cities and rural areas and that the public is more widely involved in this work, basing it on the principle "they are our homes, so it is also up to us to look after them." The population's broad participation in preserving the housing stock and in the provisions of cities and kolkhoz and sovkhoz settlements with amenities is part of the comprehensive task of the working people's communist education.

Taking part in the council's work were members and candidate members of the Uzbek CP Central Committee Bureau I.G. Anisimkin, L.I. Grekov, M.M. Musakhanov, I.B. Usmankho Usmankhodzhayev, N.D. Khudayberdyyev, N. Makhmudov, G.M. Orlov and S.U. Sultanova.

LITHUANIAN MINISTER VIEWS HOUSING PROBLEMS

LD191219 Vilnyus SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 10 Dec 80 p 2

[Article by V. Kazanavichys, deputy chairman of the Lithuanian SSR Council of Ministers: "A Problem of Concern to All"]

[Summary] Nearly 2 million square meters of housing are being built annually in Lithuania and the republic's construction workers hold a high place in a number of indicators.

"The successes of housing construction are undoubted and clear to everyone. We have learned how to build a lot and quickly. At the same time, one cannot close one's eyes to the insufficiently high qualitative side of work. This sometimes clouds the joy of housewarmings and increases construction costs.

"The problem of quality is of concern to everyone. This was again shown by the materials published in SOVETSKAYA LITVA under the rubric 'High Quality for Every Apartment.' I will now go through the questions raised there which are constantly in the field of vision of party and government."

Many of the difficulties encountered in housing construction stem from other sectors of the country's economy. There are raw material, machinery and manpower shortages. The Lithuanian party and government have done much to improve matters in recent years, but state measures are needed to achieve a radical improvement in construction quality.

"Everything now depends on us. The sooner we implement what has been outlined, the faster higher results will be achieved in the national economy as a whole and in construction in particular."

The planning of housing construction must be improved, the number of customers must be reduced and planning organizations' responsibility for work quality must be increased. Large panel housing construction must be improved and construction using reinforced concrete blocks must be expanded. The achievements of science and technology must be used more widely. The Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry is facing major tasks in the next 5-year plan, such as the modernization of brick plants and an increase in the output of wall materials. Labor collectives have a great and active role to play in improving quality through enforcing labor discipline and reprimanding those who violate it. The tendency for moral and material incentives to be leveled out must be eliminated.

"Questions of improving construction quality must be examined more purposefully and demandingly at collegiums of construction ministries and deparrments and in their lower components. If we all, from planning and design through construction, work in a high quality way, the end result--the apartment--will be a high quality and beautiful one. As for remarks and proposals on improving quality and press articles by working people to construction workers and designers, they must be perceived as Soviet citizens; desire to help in solving complex housing construction issues. Specific measures must be taken on these proposals and remarks. Only by joint efforts can every new residential district, every house and every apartment stand out for beauty and high quality."

The improvement of housing construction is an extremely important socioeconomic task.

SOVETSKAYA LITVA: ECONOMIC RESULTS OF CP PLENUM

LD190953 [Editorial Report] Vilnyus SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian on 30 November 1980 frontpages a 900-word editorial entitled "For the People's Well-Being" which reviews the materials of the recent 17th Lithuanian CP Central Committee Plenum and of the 2d republican Supreme Soviet session which, in their turn, stressed aspects of the CPSU Central Committee October (1980) Plenum. The editorial highlights the emphasis placed on improving the supply of food and consumer goods, on increasing the efficiency of industrial and agricultural output, and capital construction, on developing the fuel and energy complex, the machine building and chemical industries and on improving planning, administration and organizational and political work. The editorial also highlights the need to correct "shortcomings and difficulties" in labor collectives and concludes by stressing "personal responsibility for success" in improving the people's well-being.

BREZHNEV GREETS GEORGIA ON PLAN FULFILLMENT

LD191031 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Nov 80 p 1

[Text] To the Georgian CP Central Committee

The Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

The Georgian SSR Council of Ministers

The party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol organizations, workers, kolkhoz members, engineering and technical workers, employees, scientists and experts and all the working people of the Georgian SSR

Dear Comrades!

It was with a feeling of profound satisfaction that the CPSU Central Committee received the report that the Georgian SSR's working people, having launched socialist competition for the implementation of the 25th CPSU Congress decisions, on a broad scale, have fulfilled ahead of schedule the targets for the growth rate of the overall volume of industrial and agricultural production envisaged by the main directions of the development of the national economy for the 10th 5-Year Plan.

It is gratifying that, having made a good start in the first year of the 5-year plan, the republic's working people have annually ensured stable, high rates for the development of production. The volume of industrial output has increased by 40 percent, labor productivity has risen and the utilization of production equipment has improved. Output in the top quality category comprises 21 percent of the overall production volume.

Good results have been achieved in the capital construction sphere. The 5-year program of construction and installation work has been fulfilled ahead of schedule with a considerable increase in the volume of capital investment.

Your successes in implementing our party's agrarian policy and the CPSU Central Committee July (1979) Plenum's decisions are gratifying. The rural workers' achievements are vivid testimony to this.

Production of agricultural produce increased by over 33 percent during the 5-year plan. Agricultural efficiency increased and produce quality improved. Targets for the procurement of grain, graded leaf tea, grapes, citrus and other fruit, potatoes, vegetables and silk cocoons were considerably overfulfilled.

It is noteworthy that the increase in output has been achieved mainly through intensive factors, and primarily by increasing agricultural crop yields and increasing livestock productivity.

Work is being condudted consistently on further raising the working people's well-being and improving working conditions. A considerable quantity of housing, schools, preschool institutions and hospitals has been built during the 5-year plan years.

Your labor successes are the result of the selfless labor of all the republic's working people and the result of skillful, purposeful organizational and political activity by party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol organizations and economic organs.

The CPSU Central Committee warmly and cordially congratulates the workers, kolkhoz members, engineering and technical workers and employees, scientists and experts, party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol workers and all the working people of the republic on the remarkable labor successes and expresses the firm conviction that the Georgian SSR's working people, having consolidated the results achieved, will struggle increasing persistency to increase production efficiency and the quality of all work and will greet the 26th CPSU Congress with high labor indicators.

[Signed] L. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee

RSFSR ROAD FREIGHT PLANNING PROBLEMS DISCUSSED

LD220857 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian on 4 December 1980 publishes on pages 1 and 2 under the rubric "Precongress Platform; We discuss the CPSU Central Committee 26th Party Congress Draft 'Main Guidelines for the USSR's Economic and Social Development for 1981 and 1985 and the Period Until 1990'" and the headline "The Motor Vehicle; Efficiency Reserves" a 2,500-word article by Ye. Trubitsyn, RSFSR Minister of Motor Transport. Noting that the main guidelines "state that the role of motor transportation has been enhanced in the 10th 5-Year Plan," Trubitsyn states nonetheless that freight turnover has not kept pace with the growth of motor transport facilities, and discusses the advantages of general-use over departmental-use transport facilities, noting the need for the former's further development and the fact that "the continuing increase in the number of small departmental transport pools is accompanied by inevitable difficulties in the sphere of planning, technical development and operating activity." Despite these difficulties, he continues, "nontransport departments are beginning to invade our ministry's sphere of activity with increasingly persistence," and now account for 67 percent of all RSFSR intercity motor transport freight shipments. "The RSFSR Ministry of Motor Transport," Trubitsyn continues, "could take on the service of the republic's entire national economy. But for that it is essential, first, that the emergence of new departmental motor transport enterprises be made impossible without the consent of the councils of ministers of the union and autonomous republics and, second, that the USSR Gosplan radically alter the existing procedure for the distribution of new vehicles." Finally, the article notes the lack of a corrdinating organ for controlling motor transport, rendering impossible the computerization of motor transport planning.

GEOLOGISTS SAY SIBERIA OIL FIND IS SHALE OIL

NC080659 Paris AFP in English 0646 GMT 8 Dec 80

[Text] Moscow, Dec 8 (AFP)--The Soviet Union has not discovered a gigantic 619,000 million ton crude oil deposit in Western Siberia but a shale oil deposit, the Soviet Geology Ministry said here today.

A spokesman told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the deposit referred to by the Swedish body PETROSTUDIES was composed of shale oil and not crude.

The spokesman gave no indication of the size of the deposit.

BRIEFS

PRIMORSKIY KRAY GRES--The necessity of completing the construction of the Primorskiy GRES during the 11th 5-Year Plan is stated in the CPSU Central Committee's draft plan. So far, in working on the construction of the 135 kilometer-long LEP-500 power transmission line, 323 foundations of the planned 327 have been installed, more than 240 supports have been placed and more than 75 kilometers of wire has been strung. [Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 0215 GMT 10 Dec 80 SK]

RADIO REPORTS DEVELOPMENTS FOR 17-21 DEC

LD220222 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 17-21 December. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item:

17 December

Flowing of winter fallow has been completed by Tadzhikistan agriculturists. To date over 340,000 hectares have been plowed--that is 102 percent of the plan. (0500 GMT)

18 December

Altay collective and state farms have completed seed preparation for spring. Special attention is being devoted to spring wheat seed--spring wheat is the kray's main crop. Next year it will cover an area of over 3 million hectares--half of this tract will be taken by the new zoned varieties Rossiyanko, Omskaya-9 and (Altayskaya Vega) which stand out for their high quality. Large areas are being allocated for the sowing of buckwheat, pulse and forage crops. (0100 GMT)

19 December

Among the most important work currently are the preparations for next year's harvest and the struggle--a real struggle and a complex one--to produce as much livestock breeding output as possible. Autumn plowing is now coming to an end in the far south and the Central Asian republics. Almost 110 million hectares of land has now been plowed, which is more than last year. Success is helped by the fact that, despite the very complex conditions this year, a very important question has been solved in livestock-breeding: The number of cattle has been maintained. Thus, the number of cows, for example, has increased by more than 160,000, while livestock farms have 500,000 more pigs. (1000 GMT)

20 December

We have received news of the course of equipment preparation for fieldwork in 1981: 70 percent of cultivators and seeders have been overhauled, as have been 76 percent of plows. This work is being done most quickly by rural machine operators of Moldavia, Georgia, Azerbaijan and the republics of the Soviet Baltic area. But the farms in Kirgizia are lagging in the preparation of sowing equipment. Already. in the first month of winter, almost 40 percent of grain harvesting combines have been prepared. Overhaul is going even more rapidly on harvesting equipment in Latvia, Estonia, Azerbaijan: in these republics half of the combines are ready for work.
(100 GMT)

21 December

Autumn plowing has ended in the collective and state farms of Tadzhikistan. The warm sunny winter has enabled the machine operators to conduct this work in better time and with a higher quality. The area sown to cotton in the republic next spring will exceed 350,000 hectares. In the Vakhsh Valley harvesting of intermediary grain crops continues. Using fields throughout the year enables the livestock farms to be supplied in winter as well with succulent and green feed. (0200 GMT)

SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM HONORS COSMONAUTS

LD101744 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 10 Dec 80

[Text] Today at 1226 after the successful fulfillment of the flight program, Cosmonauts Leonid Kizim, Oleg Makarov and Gennadiy Strekalov returned to earth.

For the successful carrying out of the testing in space of the improved transport vessel Soyuz T-3 and the courage and heroism shown during this, by decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Oleg Grigoriyevich Makarov, Twice Hero of the Soviet Unibn and Pilot Cosmonaut of the USSR, has been awarded the Order of Lenin. The title of Hero of the Soviet Union with the award of Orders of Lenin and Gold Star medals have been bestowed on Pilot Cosmonaut Leonid Denisovich Kizim and Pilot Cosmonaut Gennadiy Mikhaylovich Strekalov.

SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE STUDIES FUEL SAVING STEPS

LD191425 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 3 Dec 80 p 2

[Yu. Chaplygin report: "Scientific Conference"]

[Text] A 3-day all-union scientific and technical conference opened yesterday at the USSR Gosplan's all-union Scientific Research Institute of Comprehensive Fuel and Energy Problems (Vniiktep) in Moscow. Its theme is "seeking reserves for economies and for increased efficiency in the utilization of fuel and energy resources in the national economy."

Reports on urgent problems of energy-saving policy were delivered at the plenary session by A. Lalayants, deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan; Vniiktep Director S. Yatrov; I. Ishchenko, deputy chairman of the USSR Gosstroy; Academician L. Melentyev, and I. Gruzdev, deputy chairman of the RSFSR Gosplan.

Today and tomorrow the conference participants of will discuss questions of improving methods of planning, norm setting and encouragement of saving of fuel and energy resources and increasing the efficiency of their utilization in industry, construction and municipal and domestic services.